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Your essential daily news | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015 | High 21°C /Low 7°C Sunny

They just want to pee

Brynn Emond stands on Parliament Hill with a sign to protest for transgender rights. Activists organized an "Occupotty" Tuesday to raise a stink about Bill C-279. ANDRZEJ TERRENCE/FOR METRO

Protest coverage in metroNEWS

Lights, camera, action in Ottawa

FILM

This summer could be busy for local crews

Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

The film industry spotlight may be shining on Ottawa this summer, but some production companies are bracing for fewer film resources.

The FIFA Women's World Cup and the possibility of a CBC TV series returning to the nation's capital could make for more cameras rolling into the city — and a scramble for people to handle them.

"It's going to be tremendously busy," said Rob Menzies, vice president of Zed Filmworks. "We're worried about crew right now."

His Ottawa-based company is filming seven productions between now and the end of the year, with budgets ranging from $1 million to $6 million.

There are roughly two crews in Ottawa, a city that's squeezed between Montreal's and Toronto's thriving film hubs. That means about a total 100 to 150 people qualified for jobs in production, art and electrical work.

"It will be a fight for people, absolutely," said Menzies, adding there will be some overlap between productions.

However, he's optimistic:

"It's ultimately a good problem to have. More work is always better than less work. But it does pose some challenges, for sure."

CBC recently announced the revival of its TV series Michael: Tuesdays & Thursdays. There's still no word on whether the series will film in Ottawa again.

Bruce Harvey, head of Invest Ottawa's Film Office, said the city can expect crews to be out shooting b-roll of the FIFA Women's World Cup and there may be film spin-off from other activities, like the Toronto 2015 Pan Am & Parapan American Games. A Toronto-based animation house is also eyeing the capital as a location.

To help out the stretched-thin industry, Invest Ottawa is organizing a job fair for film production crews at Lansdowne Park on May 30.

As someone who hustles to draw a bigger film industry to the city, Harvey welcomes the action.

"There's no reason why we shouldn't be substantially bigger in film industry and production than we are now," he said.

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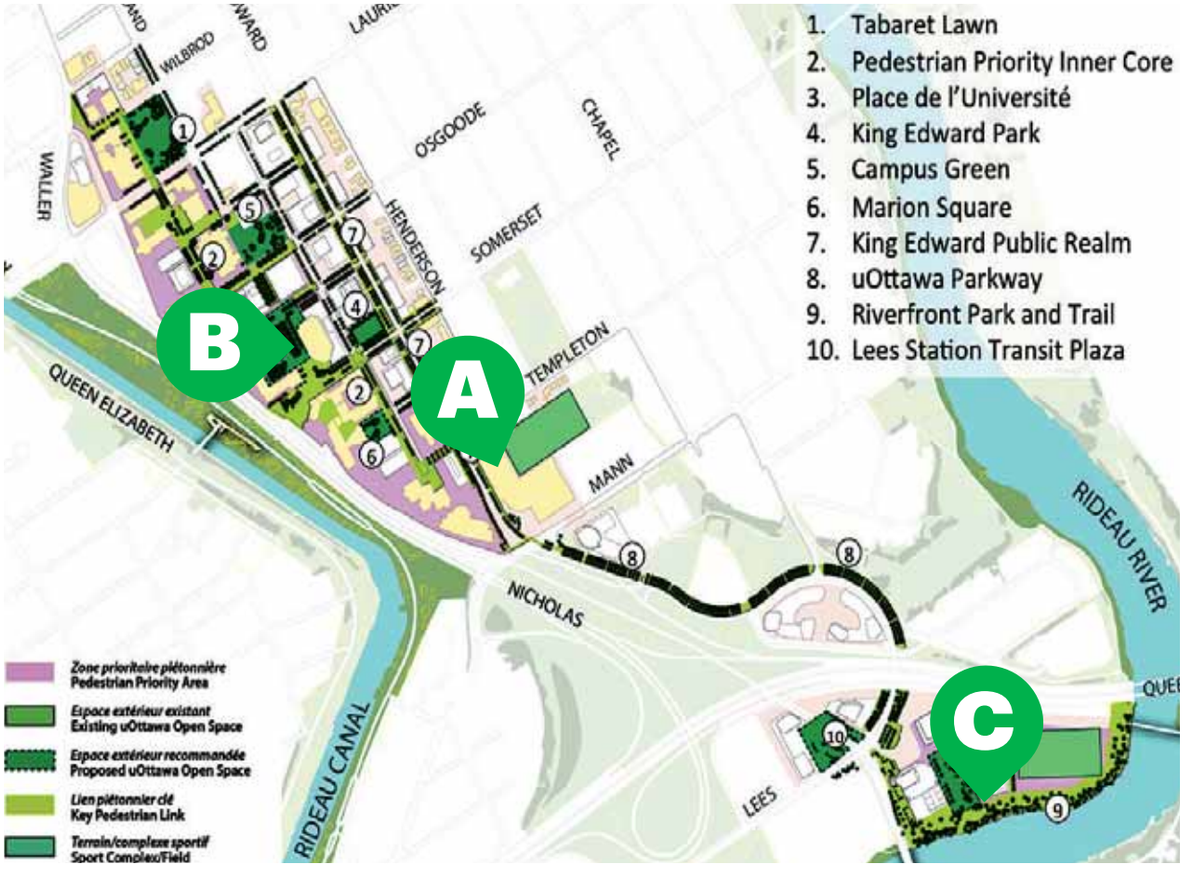
metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Video Game Hall of Fame names finalists for induction. **Business**

ON THE CAMPUS GREEN

The University of Ottawa would like all 50,800 of its students to walk or bike to class. A whopping 80 per cent do, but the school is encouraging the rest to leave their cars behind. The 20-year campus master plan is more green trees than concrete, with parks and pedestrian-friendly pathways along the Rideau River. Here's a glimpse of the redesign.

LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO



BEFORE AFTER

A KING EDWARD

The university is focusing on bringing in the green to King Edward Avenue. That includes trees along the street and a park at the Somerset Street intersection.

BEFORE AFTER

B PLACE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ

What's now a parking lot at Place de l'Université will eventually be turned into a walkable, bike-friendly area. Again, more trees.

C RIVERFRONT PARK AND TRAIL

Along with King Edward Avenue, the Rideau River is a key focus of the master plan. The university is looking at bringing in more pedestrian-friendly pathways to the riverfront.

Sens confident better times ahead

OFF-SEASON

Ottawa has goalie decision to make this summer

Senators goaltender Andrew Hammond packs his bag after cleaning out his locker on Tuesday in Ottawa. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The sting of disappointment hasn't left, but the promise of better times ahead has defenceman Marc Methot and his Senators teammates going into the off-season with confidence.

The Senators packed their bags Tuesday, two days after their season ended with a 2-0 loss to Montreal. That gave the Canadiens the best-of-seven Eastern Conference quarter-final series in six games.

But there was plenty for the Senators to feel good about. They made history by becoming the first team ever to qualify for the postseason after being 14 points back.

"When I look back at our record from the last couple months of the season, I mean we did nearly the impossible in terms of getting in," said Methot. "Mixing that in with some incredible performances, individual performances from some guys, including Hammer.

"What he was able to do for us to get us in as a team was huge, and you can't forget all those little things."

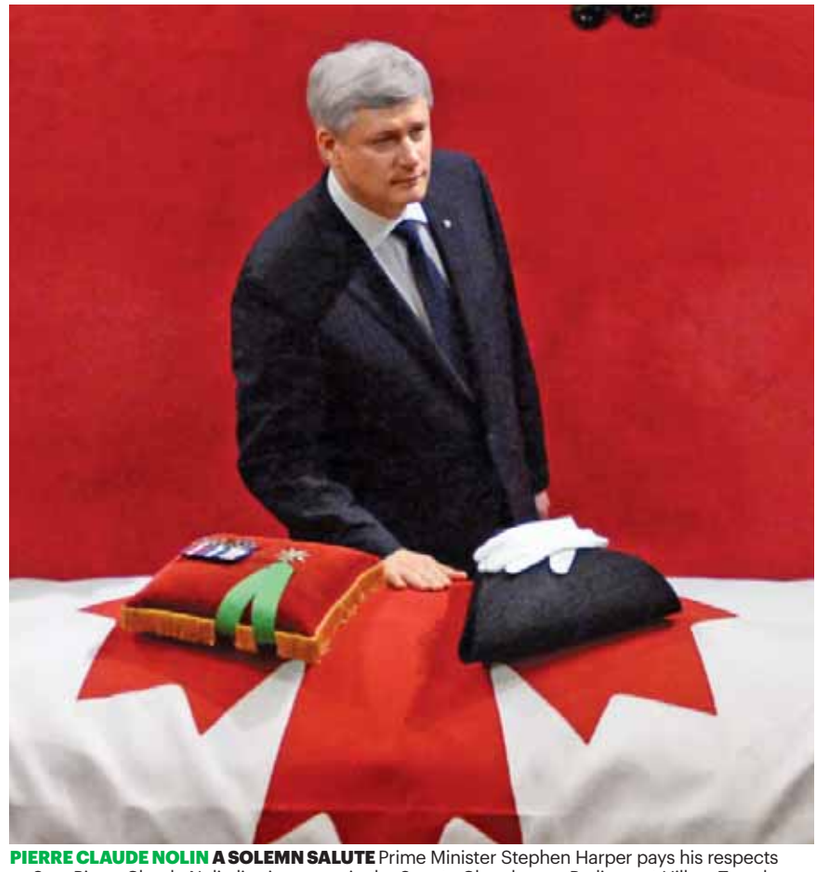
Much of Ottawa's success was the result of rookie goaltender Andrew Hammond, who went 20-1-2 down the stretch. He's scheduled to become an unrestricted free agent July 1 and ideally would like to remain with the Senators.

"I love the city of Ottawa and I would like to come back here," he said.

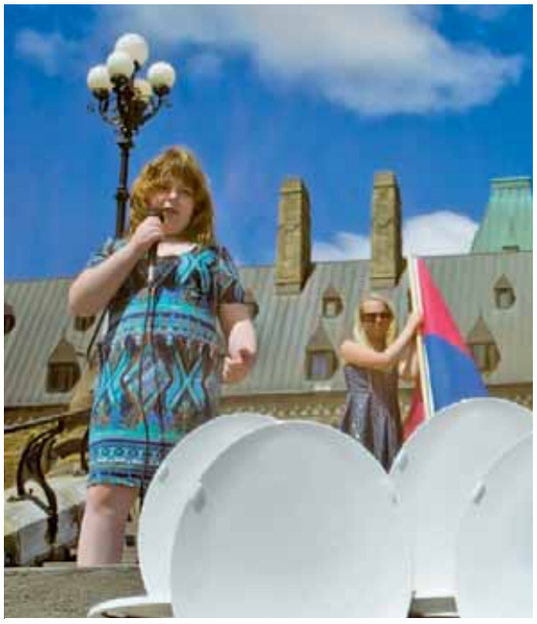
"But at the end of the day, there's two goaltenders on one-way contracts, so we'll see what happens."

The other two are Craig Anderson and Robin Lehner, meaning Ottawa will have a decision to make this summer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



PIERRE CLAUDE NOLIN A SOLEMN SALUTE Prime Minister Stephen Harper pays his respects as Sen. Pierre Claude Nolin lies in repose in the Senate Chamber on Parliament Hill on Tuesday. Nolin, 64, died last week after a five-year battle with a rare form of cancer. He was appointed to the Senate by Brian Mulroney in 1993. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS



Charlie Lowthian-Rickert speaks to the crowd gathered at the Parliament Hill to protest in support of transgender rights on Tuesday. Nine-year-old Lowthian-Rickert talks about coming out to her mother as transgender. ANDRZEJ TERRENCE/FOR METRO

'Occupotty' protest raises stink

HUMAN RIGHTS

'I hate prejudice and I hate bulllies': Sen. Mitchell

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Transgender activists and their allies organized an "Occupotty" protest on Parliament Hill Tuesday to raise a stink about a Conservative senator's proposed amendments to an anti-discrimination bill going through the Senate.

A crowd of about 60 supporters waved flags and sang along with the handed-out lyrics of Let it Pee, a song written to the tune of The Beatles' Let it Be.

"My bits and pieces do not define me," said nine-year-old Charlie Lowthian-Rickert, sharing the story of her coming out to her mother as transgender.

The original version of the bill C-279 would see transgender people protected under federal human rights legislation.

The part troubling many is an amendment by Conservative Sen. Don Plett that prevents transgender individuals from choosing which washroom they use.

"This amendment would create some big roadblocks in my life if it passes. If I had to go to the men's washroom in federal facilities, I could be bullied and harassed," said Lowthian-Rickert.

Sen. Grant Mitchell, who sponsored the original bill, showed up to give support.

"I hate prejudice and I hate bullies," said Mitchell, comparing the bill's impact to the one that legalized same-sex marriage. "These are significant issues."

Mitchell said he's currently working on removing the amendment and having the original bill that protects transgender individuals finally passed.

> **This amendment would create some big roadblocks in my life if it passes. If I had to go to the men's washroom in federal facilities, I could be bullied and harassed.**
> Charlie Lowthian-Rickert

INVESTIGATION

Pets rescued from townhouse blaze

Three snakes, two iguanas, one cat and one dog were all rescued from a fire that broke out in a townhouse in the city's west end on Tuesday afternoon, while two people were treated for smoke inhalation.

Ottawa Fire Services received a 911 call just after 1:15 p.m. about a fire at 90 Brockinton Cres., which is north of the Nepean Sportsplex, that appeared to have started in the kitchen. Fire crews quickly brought the fire under control.

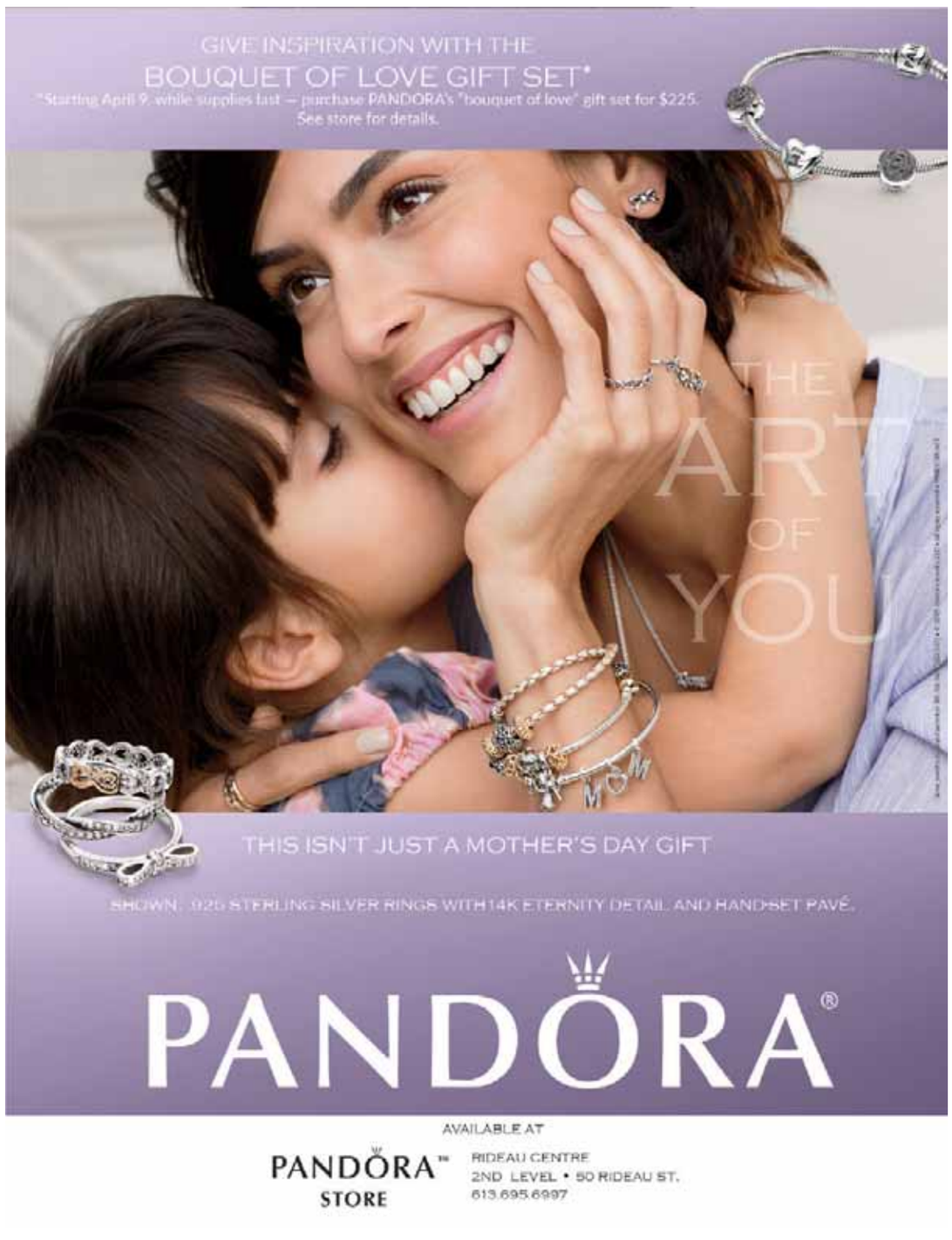
Paramedics also treated a 19-year-old woman for smoke inhalation. She went to hospital in serious but stable condition. A 21-year-old man was also treated and was sent to hospital in stable condition. The cause of the blaze is under investigation.
JOE LOFARO/METRO

IN BRIEF

Ontario spent $7M on consultants for Hydro One

Ontario spent nearly $7 million on consultants who helped a Liberal government-appointed panel to recommend selling a majority of Hydro One and changes to beer sales. The premier's office says having the consultants' technical expertise makes the government "confident" that the panel's recommendations are "evidence-based and in the best interest of Ontarians."

Former TD Bank CEO Ed Clark was tapped by the Liberals to lead the panel, which earlier this month recommended the hydro sale and reforms to beer sales. Several firms including KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers and McKinsey and Company were paid a total of about $6.8 million for advice to Clark's panel. THE CANADIAN PRESS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Inside look at animal anatomy

MUSEUM OF NATURE

100 specimens preserved through plastination

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

If you slept through your teacher's anatomy lesson in high school, the Museum of Nature has an eye-opening exhibit that will either make your skin crawl or your jaw drop.

The Body Worlds: Animal Inside Out exhibit is coming to Canada for the first time, starting in Ottawa this Friday.

Among the collection of 100 animal specimens that have been preserved through plastination are a bull, a giraffe, a trio of camels, an ostrich and even a human.

With the skin removed, the creatures' organs and muscle tissue are all exposed.

Sounds gross, right?

"No, it's not at all," said Dr. Angelina Whalley, the conceptual designer who brought the exhibit to Canada.

"As soon as you have the proper reason behind it and the proper science behind it, it's a completely different thing. For me, the body is like a treasure. I'm grateful to be able to investigate the body interior."

Plastination dates back to the 1970s, when Dr. Gunther von Hagens discovered a method for stopping the decaying process in animal specimens for educational purposes.

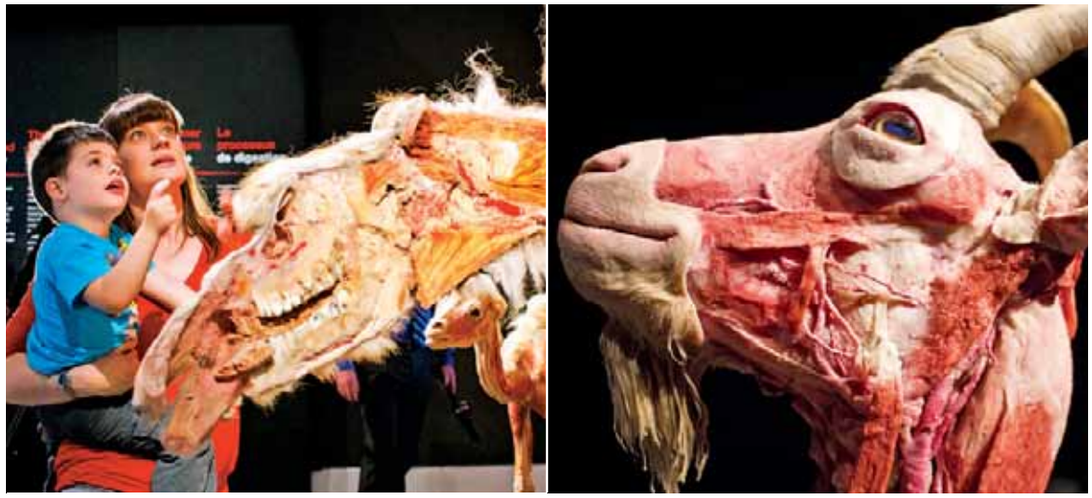
Five 15-metre trucks were needed to get the marquee attraction to the museum.

Whalley, who is also the director of the Institute for Plastination in Heidelberg, Germany, said she hopes Body Worlds will generate a greater appreciation of animal life and teach humans how fragile nature really is.

"First of all, I want to fascinate them. I want to make them aware of the huge diversity, and there are a lot of commonalities as well," she said.

"My sincere goal is by providing all this knowledge that people are gaining more respect for all these creatures but (also) for life in general. I'm sure it will."

Body Worlds runs May 1 to Sept. 20.



Marcus Hertwig-Jaksch, 2, and his mother Sara Gunnink examine a plastinated camel at the Body Worlds exhibit at the Museum of Nature on Tuesday. The exhibit shows anatomies of all kinds of creatures, from goats to giraffes. ANDRZEJ TERRENCE/FOR METRO

THE PROCESS

- Formaldehyde is used to stop the animal from decaying.
- The animal is dissected to expose the inner structures of the body.
- Decay is dependent on water, so tissue water is removed from the body and replaced with a solvent (acetone).
- The process of "forced vacuum impregnation" draws acetone out of the specimen and soaks the polymer solution into each individual cell.
- Once all the tissues are imbued with the silicone, it is removed and the specimen is given a lifelike posture.
- The specimen is irreversibly cured with a gas.

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Metro Ottawa managing editor Steve Rennie hangs his head after losing a bet to his counterpart at Metro Montreal. LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

'The better team won'

HOCKEY

Metro Ottawa's managing editor admits defeat... sort of

Steve Rennie
Metro | Ottawa

Congratulations, Montreal Canadiens fans. It pains me to say the better team won.

I won't complain about the disallowed goal in the last game, even though I thought the referee blew his whistle too soon.

I won't complain about P.K. Subban's nasty slash on Mark Stone in the first game, even though I thought it was a cheap shot.

I won't even complain that I was signed up for this bet before I'd even started work here!

No, instead I will simply wish you good luck in the next round.

MONTREAL ROAD

Police looking into local vapour lounge

Ottawa police are keeping a close eye on a marijuana vapourizing lounge, which opened recently on Montreal Road.

BuzzOn lets visitors consume marijuana — which is illegal unless a doctor prescribes a patient a medical prescription — inside the shop at 29 Montreal Rd.

"Pot is illegal, it doesn't matter in what context, unless you have a permit to carry or smoke it," said police spokesman Chuck Benoit.

Police visited the shop on Monday and left without incident.

BACKGROUND

A man who identified himself on the phone as the landlord of the unit said the store was still operational as of Tuesday afternoon and the store manager, Wayne Robillard, "is not doing anything illegal."

"We are aware of it and we are looking into it," said Benoit. "We have to look into it before giving any comments."

JOE LOFARO/METRO

IN BRIEF

Traffic stop leads to drug, weapon charges

The OPP charged two Ottawa men with drug offences after conducting a R.I.D.E. traffic blitz on the Maitland 417 eastbound on ramp Tuesday.

Police from an Ottawa detachment noticed the passenger of the vehicle was not wearing his seat belt. When they pulled the vehicle over they spotted an undisclosed quantity of drugs and a prohibited weapon.

As a result, police charged the driver, Bernard Jason Clark, 40, with two drug offences under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act after less than 30 grams of marijuana were found inside the vehicle.

The passenger, Gerald Michael Burns, 44, was charged with two drugs offences and with carrying a concealed weapon or ammunition.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

Gatineau police looking for fraudster

Gatineau police are asking for the public's help in identifying an apparent fraudster who has been targeting local businesses.

The man has been entering certain businesses since January 2014 intending to buy advertising space for a magazine called LHJMQ MAG, according to police.

The magazine in question does not appear to exist, police say.

Despite the fake magazine, the man has been able to dupe several businesses for false ad deals in exchange for money or gift certificates.

Anyone who believes they have been a victim of this fraud is being asked to contact Sergeant-Detective Mélissa Bolduc au 819-243-2345, extension 6013.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

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Thursday, May 7, 6 pm to 8 pm
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The National Capital Commission (NCC) is pleased to invite the public to a discussion on conserving the legacy of modern architecture and design. Architects, landscape architects and engineers of the 20th century used experimental materials and construction techniques to create buildings and shape places. They espoused radically new philosophies in their architecture, dramatically changing the shape of our cities. Today, this modern heritage is threatened, as new philosophical approaches take hold, and as the "modern" is seen as outdated and not worthy of conservation.

Our panel will discuss the emergence of modernism, the architectural legacy we have inherited, and why and how we should conserve our "modern" heritage. The panel will consist of the following experts:

Susan Aglie Director, Winnipeg Architecture Foundation
Francine Vanlaethem Professor, Université du Québec à Montréal, and author of *Patrimoine en devenir*
Michael McClelland Principal, ERA Architects, and co-editor of *Concrete Toronto*

The public will have the opportunity to address their comments and questions to the expert panel.

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Ottawa homeowner Anthony Weicker said contractor Devon Morgan, inset, also known as Captain Construction, worked a few weeks on framing a backyard deck in 2013 before disappearing from the unfinished job and taking a sizeable materials deposit with him. CONTRIBUTED, INSET: FACEBOOK

Ottawa families left high and dry after contractor vanishes

LAWSUIT

One man gave a $9,598 deposit for a deck that was never built

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Two Ottawa families are trying to recoup tens of thousands of dollars from a contractor who took their money and then walked out on half-finished jobs, court documents show.

Now the families are wondering if they'll ever see their money again.

Anthony Weicker and his wife hired contractor Devon Morgan two years ago to build them a new deck. Morgan was a subcontractor for another company the Weickers had previously worked with, so they didn't bother to do a deep background check.

Documents filed in court show Weicker agreed to pay Morgan $13,327 to build the deck. They gave him a $9,598 deposit as a down payment.

Morgan worked for a few weeks, but Weicker says some of the building materials the contractor apparently ordered never showed up.

Weicker and Morgan exchanged text messages, filed in court, about the missing materials. Before long, Morgan stopped responding to Weicker's texts and then seemed to vanish.

Weicker sued Morgan. An Ontario small claims court ordered Morgan to pay Weicker $7,567 plus court costs and disbursements. But Morgan never did.

He did, however, leave a shovel and a wheelbarrow behind. Weicker finished the job himself because, he says, no contractors would touch the framing that Morgan left behind after hearing the story.

"It kind of showed a pattern from the beginning that he knew what he was doing, that he intended to take the money and run," Weicker told Metro.

> **It kind of showed a pattern from the beginning that he knew what he was doing, that he intended to take the money and run.**
> Anthony Weicker

"It was deceitful."

Weicker and his wife soon found out they weren't alone.

In 2013, Gaelle Develter hired Morgan to build an addition to her home to make life easier for her daughter, who has a disability that makes it difficult for her to climb stairs.

She came across Morgan on Kijiji, the online classified website.

"He seemed very organized and seemed to know his job quite well," she said. "He was pleasant and answered all our questions. I trusted him."

She and Morgan signed a contract for the job on April 2 of that year. He asked for a large amount of money up front to cover the cost of building materials. But after paying him more than $50,000, Develter and her family realized something wasn't right.

Building materials never showed up and no one seemed to know where they were.

Develter said Morgan never worked a regular schedule. His workers didn't seem to know how to reach him.

By the end of May 2013, Develter and her husband were no longer able to reach Morgan. Someone else was living at the address he gave them.

Meanwhile, their addition was an empty shell and their yard was littered with broken glass and metal.

"He destroyed my self-confidence and my family," Develter said. "It is not only for the money, but now it is difficult for me to trust people.

Develter eventually hired another contractor and sued Morgan. She, too, won her case against Morgan.

Morgan was eventually charged with several offences under the Consumer Protection Act. Last month, he was convicted in the Ontario Court of Justice in Ottawa and sentenced to 45 days in jail followed by two years' probation.

He was also ordered to pay a total of $42,566 to two consumers. His company, Captain Construction, was also fined another $30,000.

But it seems Morgan has left town. Weicker and Develter both say they have heard he may be in Alberta.

Repeated efforts to reach Morgan were unsuccessful.

Weicker called the experience a stressful ordeal.

"I'm not a vindictive person, but it would be nice to see him held accountable for what he did," he said.

Suspended senator Mike Duffy arrives at court in Ottawa on Monday. Duffy is facing 31 charges of fraud, breach of trust, bribery, and frauds on the government related to inappropriate Senate expenses. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Senate travel rules not written down

DUFFY TRIAL

Expense claim edict passed by word of mouth, court hears

Senate expense policies were broad, vague and confusing — and now a court is hearing that at least one of them was passed along between administrative staff by word of mouth.

The Senate's top financial official, Nicole Proulx, testified Tuesday that she was told at some point in the past that senators were not allowed to claim travel expenses when they attended partisan fundraisers.

Suspended senator Mike Duffy is facing 31 charges of fraud, bribery and breach of trust, with 18 of them related to travel expenses. In several cases, he was attending Conservative political events.

Duffy's defence lawyer, Donald Bayne, seized on Proulx's claim that such travel was prohibited. He has taken the court through all of the Senate's guidelines, rules, and travel policies multiple times and hadn't come across that edict.

"Where is that clearly set out?" Bayne said.

Proulx explained a colleague told her years ago the Senate's internal economy committee made that decision.

"Where is it written?" Bayne asked.

"It would be a decision. Decisions are in camera, so I would not be able to ... I can't answer that."

Proulx went on to say the policy was communicated to her by a fellow employee and it predated her arrival in the finance office in the late 1990s.

A list of events a senator can or cannot travel to on the public dime was finally created in mid-2012, after the period covered by the criminal charges.

The testimony is another example of the Senate's opaque system of deciding important matters of policy within the confines of its standing committee on internal economy, budgets and administration.

31

Mike Duffy faces a total of 31 charges of fraud, bribery and breach of trust. Of those, 18 are related to travel expense claims.

The same committee commissioned an audit of the residency status of all senators in late 2012 or 2013 but is trying to keep it out of the trial.

Also in 2013, the committee asked for legal advice on the constitutional residency requirement of senators. That same committee, controlled by the majority Conservatives, worked to redact a report on Duffy in April 2013 to ensure it didn't include any negative language about his residency status.

Bayne has focused on the Senate administrative rules, the core document that guides operations and policies in the upper chamber. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Gay Muslim director draws death threats

MECCA

Scenes from the movie

1. This cube shaped structure, called the Kaaba is the beating heart of Islam. Millions of pilgrims circle it in an ancient ritual called the Tawaaf.
2. Mecca's newest addition, the Kingdom Tower, looms over the Kaaba.
3. This woman pilgrim raises both hands to show her respect for this ancient structure whose direction more than a billion Muslims face when they pray.
4. A Hajj volunteer stands under the Saudi flag. Young men like him, still in school, volunteer their services during the pilgrimage.

ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

HOT DOCS

Filmmaker speaks of 'abundance of caution'

Security is being added for Parvez Sharma, 41, the gay Muslim director of A Sinner in Mecca, following online threats ahead of his film's world premiere at Toronto's Hot Docs Wednesday.

"It's (being done) out of an abundance of caution," said Hot Docs executive director Brett Hendrie. "It's obviously a film that is provocative and high interest, and so we have somebody who will be with Parvez."

"I am a little worried. I don't know what's going to happen tomorrow," said the filmmaker as he left his New York home for Toronto, adding Hot Docs was arranging "a security detail of some sort" in response to his concerns about online hate mail and death threats.

"I expected backlash, but I did not expect it so early," said Sharma, who said he was denounced and had a fatwa imposed on him by "a minor religious figure in South Africa" following the release of his 2007 film A Jihad for Love, which looked at the lives of gay, lesbian and transgender Muslims.

The threats, which don't mention Toronto or Hot Docs, have come in via the film's website and on message boards, which "have completely lit up where people are denouncing the film and me," said Sharma. Iranian state media have denounced A Sinner in Mecca as part of a "Western conspiracy" to legitimize the "despicable sin of homosexuality."

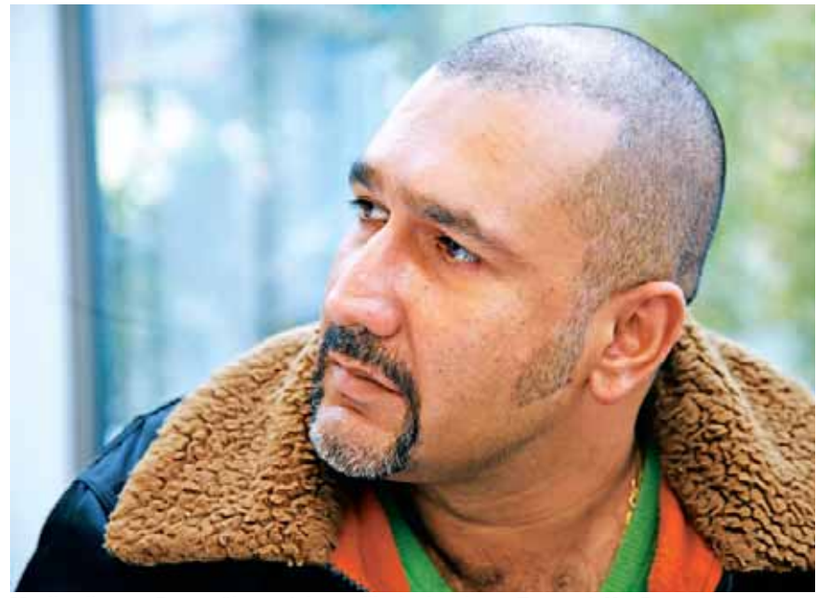
"No one has even seen (the film) yet and yet the reaction has been enormous," said Sharma.

In A Sinner in Mecca, Sharma chronicles his hajj, a religious pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia, an act of devotion that assures forgiveness for sins. It's a deeply personal film about faith, forgiveness and Sharma's spiritual reconciliation with his late mother, who didn't accept his homosexuality.

"I need to prove that I can be a good Muslim and be gay," Sharma says onscreen as he begins his journey, which includes stops in his birthplace of Saharanpur in northern India.

It was a risky endeavour. Homosexuals can face death in Saudi Arabia. And Sharma brought two small cameras and an iPhone into holy sites, where it is forbidden to film. He said some of his footage was erased when his camera was confiscated by the mutaween, Islamic religious police.

Only rush seats are available for the world premiere of A Sinner in Mecca on April 29. It screens again April 30 and May 2. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Muslim director Parvez Sharma's latest film is showing at Toronto's Hot Docs. CONTRIBUTED

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5 HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT

As always, the spring report of Canada's auditor general, Michael Ferguson, takes issue with many areas of federal responsibility — from health care in First Nations communities, to oversight tax credits. Here five findings from the report, which was released on Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 First Nations health

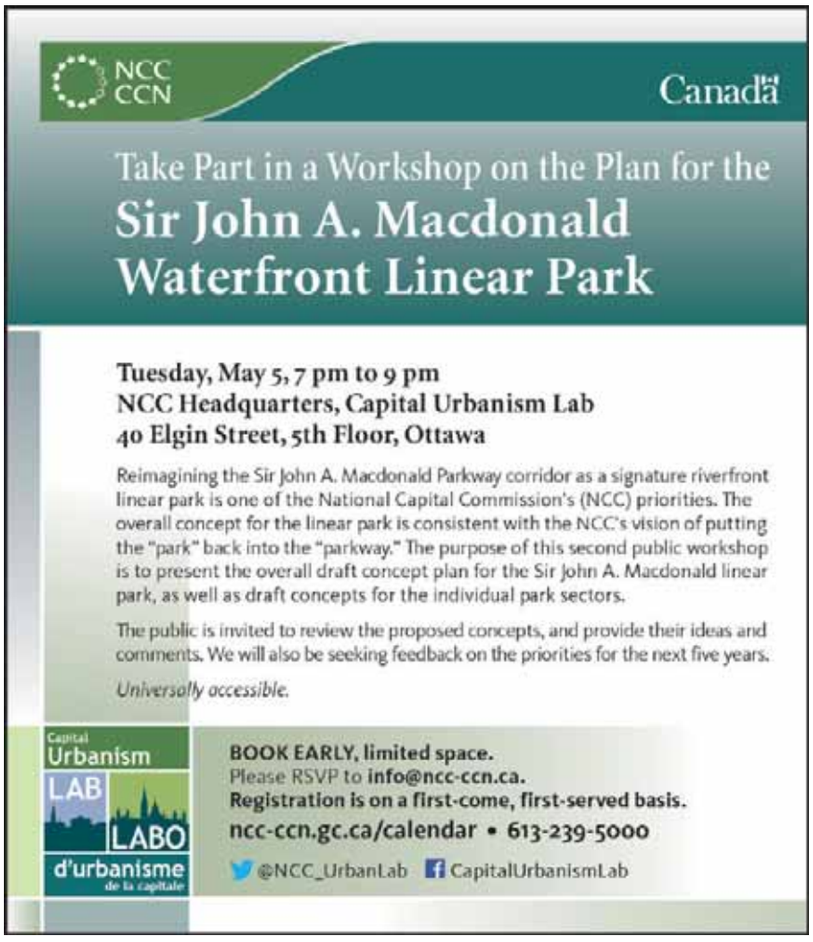
Health Canada can't say for sure that all eligible First Nations individuals in remote communities in Manitoba and Ontario can access sufficient clinical and client care services and medical transportation, the report says. Only one of 45 randomly chosen nurses in the First Nations communities had completed all five of Health Canada's mandatory training courses. Not all nursing stations in the communities meet health and safety requirements or building codes. In one case, a nursing station residence had been unusable for more than two years because of a broken septic system.

2 Drug-resistant infections

The report says the Public Health Agency of Canada has failed to mobilize its federal, provincial and territorial counterparts in developing a national strategy to deal with so-called antimicrobial resistance. Ferguson's audit found that the agency collects only limited information on drug-resistant infections at clinics and long-term care facilities, and lacks details about the extent of the problem in remote areas and among vulnerable members of the population.

3 Missing cost projections

Finance Department reports do not include future cost projections on a wide suite of tax benefits that MPs ought to be able to take into account when they debate budgets and public spending, according to the report by Ferguson, seen at left. The auditor says overall projections are available for measures such as the children's fitness tax credit, the first-time home buyers credit and the age credit, but that is not the same as tracking the actual amount of dollars being lost.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Canada
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Tuesday, May 5, 7 pm to 9 pm
NCC Headquarters, Capital Urbanism Lab
40 Elgin Street, 5th Floor, Ottawa
Reimagining the Sir John A. Macdonald Parkway corridor as a signature riverfront linear park is one of the National Capital Commission's (NCC) priorities. The overall concept for the linear park is consistent with the NCC's vision of putting the "park" back into the "parkway." The purpose of this second public workshop is to present the overall draft concept plan for the Sir John A. Macdonald linear park, as well as draft concepts for the individual park sectors.
The public is invited to review the proposed concepts, and provide their ideas and comments. We will also be seeking feedback on the priorities for the next five years.
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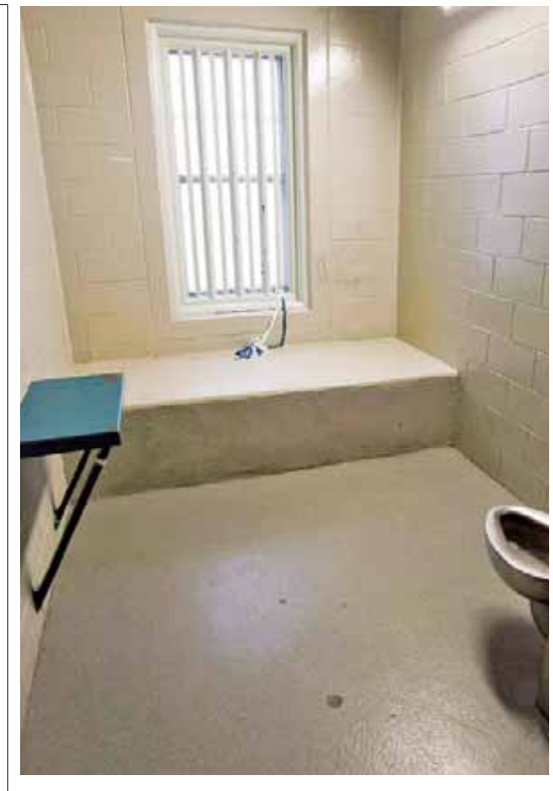

5 Defence spending oversight

The report says that between 2009 and 2013, the Office of the Ombudsman at the Department of National Defence was poorly managed and overseen. Former ombudsman Pierre Daigle, pictured below, routinely approved his own hospitality expense claims and ignored contracting rules. Daigle, who was replaced in 2012, regularly ran afoul the department's values and ethics code, leading to staff grievances, complaints, high levels of sick leave and turnover. National Defence failed to investigate adequately or take action.

4 Late parole release

Lower-risk offenders are being released from prison later in their sentences and with less time supervised in the community because Correctional Service Canada recommends early release less often, the report found. Some 80 per cent of offenders were behind bars beyond their first parole eligibility date, while more offenders are being released directly from medium- and high-security penitentiaries.

Accused of striking Hollywood star with car, paparazzo set free

VANCOUVER

Judge orders photographer to keep clear of Ryan Reynolds

A Vancouver-area celebrity photographer faces more serious charges over allegations he criminally harassed Ryan Reynolds before hitting him with his car. VICTORIA WILL/INVISION/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Vancouver-area celebrity photographer accused of striking Ryan Reynolds with a car has been ordered by a judge to keep clear of the actor as he continues filming his latest movie.

Richard Fedyck, 52, made his first court appearance Tuesday on serious new charges for alleged criminal harassment of Reynolds over a six-week period before the confrontation in a hotel parkade.

After a joint submission by his defence lawyer and the Crown, Fedyck was released with conditions. Details cannot be released because of a mandatory publication ban.

Provincial court Judge Maria Giardini interrupted the Crown lawyer as she launched into a basic outline of the case.

"I know who Ryan Reynolds is," Giardini said with a chuckle.

Fedyck stood with his hands in the pockets of his dark suit during the brief appearance. His lawyer Jonathan Waddington refused to comment.

The paparazzo was arrested two days after Reynolds was allegedly struck in the secure parking lot of the Shangri-La Hotel at about 7 p.m. on April 10.

Court documents show Fedyck is charged with criminal harassment, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and assault with a weapon — his car.

The indictment says Fedyck is accused of causing Reynolds to "reasonably fear for his safety" between Feb. 28 and April 11.

He has denied hitting the Vancouver-born actor, calling the accusation "100-per-cent false."

Giardini agreed to the photographer's release on his own recognizance and $1,000 bail.

Fedyck's conditions include not contacting Reynolds or his wife, daughter or mother. He must avoid movie shoots, studios or residences where the actor may be and is banned from taking photos of him or his family.

The conditions, which also stipulate Fedyck can't enter Vancouver except for court hearings, are in place until June 5, the judge ordered.

Fedyck's next appearance is scheduled for May 5.

Fedyck has butted heads with celebrities before. He filed a lawsuit claiming verbal and physical assault by Pamela Anderson and Denise Richards during a film shoot in Richmond, B.C., in 2007. The suit was later dropped.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CANADA REVENUE AGENCY

Income tax filing extended

Canadians are getting more time to file and pay their taxes due to a mistake by the Canada Revenue Agency.

The deadline for most Canadians was set for the end of April.

However, a spokesman for Revenue Minister Kerry-Lynne Findlay said that, due to a human error, a notification was sent last week to tax preparers indicating the deadline was May 5.

Canadians now have until May 5 to file their income tax return and pay any amounts they owe for 2014.

The deadline for returns for the self-employed and their spouses or common-law partners remains June 15.

Missing the tax filing deadline triggers penalties on any amounts owed to the CRA, as well as interest on the outstanding balance.

The Quebec government announced later on Tuesday that it too is extending its deadline to May 5.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Tweet deal for Harper, Obama

Plenty of diplomatic deals get done on the margins of global get-togethers, but one conducted on Twitter in 2014 made Prime Minister Stephen Harper a digital star among his fellow world leaders.

Harper's trash-talking tweet to U.S. President Barack Obama about the men's and women's hockey finals at the Sochi Olympics was among the most retweeted missives from world leaders last year, according to the annual Twiplomacy study of online activities of global politicians.

The message — "Like I said, #teamusa is good but #wearewinter. @BarackObama, I look forward to my two cases of beer. #CANvsUSA #Sochi2014" — was forwarded more than 23,000 times.

Twitter is becoming an essential tool of 21st-century statecraft, the study says, both in terms of public diplomacy and public engagement.

In 2014, Canada was part of a co-ordinated campaign led by the U.S. State Department to use the hashtag #UnitedforUkraine in order to register official unease over Russia's actions there.

Not to be outdone, the study noted, the Russian government started using the hashtag as well to provide its point of view.

"Of course, hashtags alone will not bring back the girls from captivity in Nigeria or bring peace to Ukraine," the study said.

"However, they serve as a powerful rallying cry on specific issues and causes, and help give them international recognition as a trending topic on Twitter." THE CANADIAN PRESS

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Holiday bill unlikely to pass

An NDP private member's bill meant to formally recognize Remembrance Day as a "legal" holiday appears to be dying a slow, silent death as the sun begins to set on the current session of Parliament.

The Harper government recently asked for more time to study the straightforward, single-clause bill, which comes before a second House of Commons committee Tuesday.

Ontario New Democrat MP Dan Harris, who introduced the proposed legislation, says it's highly unlikely the bill will make it through the House of Commons and the Senate before summer, when Parliament adjourns prior to a fall election.

"It certainly seems like they've hit the brakes hard on this bill," said Harris, who accused Conservatives of tying it up by asking the veterans affairs committee to study the matter after it had already been reviewed.

"They seem to be doing everything they can to stop it."

The committee will hear witnesses Tuesday, the vast majority of whom have already testified before the other all-party committee of MPs.

"By throwing it over to veterans affairs, they've ensured at least another week's delay."

The Royal Canadian Legion opposes the legislation, fearing diminished turnout at Nov. 11 commemorations and fewer opportunities to educate young people.

Harris said since provincial law was changed in Nova Scotia and businesses were told to observe the day, attendance at Remembrance Day services has actually increased.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SASKATCHEWAN

Guilty plea in burning of homeless woman

A man accused of attacking a homeless woman and setting her on fire in northern Saskatchewan has pleaded guilty to attempted murder.

Leslie Black, 29, entered the plea Tuesday in a Prince Albert courtroom.

A judge ordered the man to undergo a psychiatric assessment and he was remanded in custody until June 26.

Marlene Bird was found badly injured in a parking lot outside a community centre in the city's downtown on June 1, 2014.

The 57-year-old was so badly burned in the attack that doctors were forced to amputate both her legs. She also had several surgeries for skin grafts.

There was an outpouring of support for Bird nationally and internationally and a local shelter set up a trust fund to help cover medical expenses along with rehabilitation costs.

Bird later moved into a home with her long-time partner, who helped her adjust to her new life in a wheelchair.

Police initially charged Black with aggravated sexual assault.

A publication ban on Bird's name was lifted after her family argued that she didn't want to be "just another statistic."

The Crown told court that the sexual assault charge will be dropped. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDMONTON

Remains found are sex worker's: Police

Leah Holoiday
Metro | Edmonton

Eleven years after Delores Dawn Brower was last seen hitching a ride on 118 Avenue in Edmonton, Alta. RCMP confirmed Tuesday that the remains found south of the city are hers.

Edmonton's medical examiner was able to identify the 33-year-old woman, who worked in the city's sex trade when she disappeared, through dental records. The examiner has been unable to determine Brower's cause of death but tests are ongoing.

On April 19, a property owner found parts of Brower's skull just east of Leduc, Alta. near Rollyview community, prompting a police investigation.

It is third time human remains have been discovered in an eight kilometre radius of one another. The skeletal remains of Katie Sylvia Ballantyne, also an Edmonton sex-trade worker, were discovered in the same region in July 2003. In 2012, the remains of 20-year-old Amber Tuccaro were found.

Insp. Stacey Talbot said RCMP is investigating the possibility that the area could be a "dumping ground" for bodies.

Described as Métis, Brower was known on the street as Spider and had been canvassed by RCMP's Project Kare, a provincial task force formed in 2003 to investigate missing or murdered sex workers. The RCMP Historical Homicide Unit is now leading the investigation.

Brower's family released a statement urging people to contact police if they had information about the homicide.

"While we are saddened to have confirmation that Delores' remains have been found, there is a sense of thankfulness as well. We loved Delores and are grateful to have some closure."

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

COURT DEL MASTRO SAYS HE'S PAID 'EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY PRICE' FOR OFFENCES

Former Conservative MP Dean Del Mastro leaves court on Tuesday at his sentencing hearing in Lindsay, Ont. Del Mastro choked back tears as he described the "nationwide condemnation" he's had to endure as his election overspending trial wound its way through the legal system. Crown prosecutors are seeking a sentence of nine to 12 months in jail, saying only imprisonment will truly drive home the gravity of Del Mastro's offences. But Del Mastro addressed the Crown's stance in his appeal to the judge. "They have failed to acknowledge the exceptionally heavy price that I have already had to pay," he said. The former Conservative MP was found guilty last fall of violating the Canada Elections Act. Del Mastro's sentence is expected to be delivered on June 26.

FRED THORNHILL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police lay charges in homeless deaths

WINNIPEG

Two men killed over weekend, another killed in early April

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

Winnipeg police have charged the man that they initially identified as a person of interest in the deaths of two homeless men in the downtown area last weekend, as well as that of a third man found beaten to death in a bus shack earlier in April.

But Winnipeg Police Service Superintendent Danny Smyth stopped short of calling the man a serial killer Tuesday.

"I don't know if there's a definition for a serial killer," said Smyth after announcing the arrest in the cases that have left Winnipeg's homeless community on edge and garnered national media attention. "But certainly three murders is significant."

John Paul Ostamas, 40, was charged with two counts of first-degree murder and one count of second-degree murder Monday.

Police allege Ostamas attacked and killed Donald Collins, 65, in downtown Winnipeg Friday night, and then killed 48-year-old Stony Bushie after the two met several hours later at a parkade near the same corner.

The second-degree murder charges are connected to the death of Myles Monias, 37, who was found beaten to death in a bus shelter downtown April 10.

Smyth said Ostamas, who is originally from the Thunder Bay, Ont. area and has lived in and out of Winnipeg for the last decade, is "very transient" and knew both men he's accused of killing last weekend, but couldn't say what motivated the attacks.

Police believe the earlier killing was random.

INVESTIGATION

Smyth said it's too early to say whether Ostamas is involved in any other unsolved crimes in Winnipeg and said investigators will be contacting police in other cities to look at possible links to unsolved crimes elsewhere.

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NFL will pay taxes

SPORTS

League to give up tax-exempt status in U.S.

Every so often, in a bid to sound threatening, a member of Congress has vowed to revoke the NFL's tax-exempt status. Now Commissioner Roger Goodell says the league will give it up voluntarily to "eliminate this distraction."

One result is that Goodell's compensation — about $35 million in 2013 and approximately $44 million in 2012 — will no longer need to be made public.

ANTITRUST

The league's switch from tax-exempt to taxable does not affect its antitrust exemption, created in the Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961. That allows clubs to negotiate radio and TV broadcast rights together.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In a memo to all 32 teams Tuesday, he wrote that "a change in the tax status will not alter the function or operation of the league office or Management Council in any way."

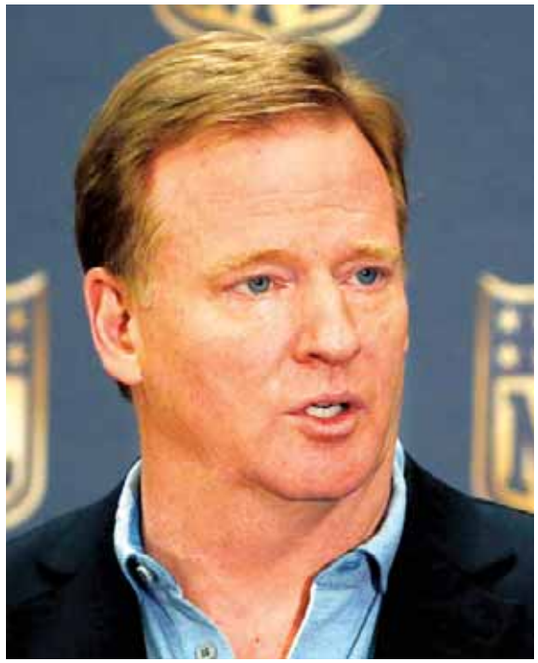
A business of about $10 billion in annual revenues, the NFL has held tax-exempt status since the 1940s and so was required to file a publicly available IRS form listing compensation for the highest-paid employees. Individual NFL teams do not have tax-exempt status.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a Connecticut Democrat, said the NFL's move "seems more like a PR stunt than a real gain. The tax-exempt status produces a pittance compared to its congressionally granted antitrust exemption — enabling billions in broadcast revenue."

Blumenthal said he would reintroduce legislation calling for a review of antitrust exemptions for the NFL, Major League Baseball, NBA and NHL.

The NBA does not have tax-exempt status, and Major League Baseball gave its status up in 2007. The NHL's status still is tax-exempt.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Commissioner Roger Goodell said the league office and its management council will file tax returns as taxable entities for the 2015 fiscal year. ROSS D. FRANKLIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Judges undecided on gay marriage

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy did not tip his hand Tuesday as the high court heard historic arguments over the right of gay and lesbian couples to marry.

Kennedy, whose vote could decide the issue, offered reasons for hope and worry to both sides in the rapt courtroom. Same-sex couples can currently marry in 36 states and the District of Columbia, and the court is weighing whether gay and lesbian unions should be allowed in all 50 states.

Kennedy seemed to share the concern of the court's conservative justices when he said marriage has been understood as one man and one woman for "millennia-plus time."

Same-sex marriage has been around in the United States for just over 10 years, and he wondered aloud whether scholars and the public need more time.

Yet Kennedy also pressed attorney John Bursch, representing the states that ban same-sex marriage, to explain how granting gay couples a right to marry would harm traditional marriages.

Bursch argued that removing child-rearing as the central rationale for marriage would weaken parents' commitment to staying married for their children's sake if their own ties were frayed.

Kennedy seemed concerned about adopted children in same-sex households in which only one partner is considered a parent by Michigan. "Under your view, it would be very difficult for same-sex couples to adopt those children," Kennedy said.

Chief Justice John Roberts also directed questions to both sides that made it hard to predict where he will come down.

The arguments offered the first public indication of where the justices stand in the dispute over whether states can continue defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman or whether the Constitution gives gay and lesbian couples the right to marry.

Only 11 states have granted marriage rights to same-sex couples through the ballot or the legislature. Court rulings are responsible for all the others.

A decision is expected in late June. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Residents clean streets as law enforcement officers stand guard, Tuesday in Baltimore, in the aftermath of rioting following Monday's funeral of Freddie Gray, who died in police custody. MATT ROURKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this aerial photo, police stand in formation near a gathering of protestors at the intersection of North and Pennsylvania avenues, Tuesday in Baltimore.
PATRICK SEMANSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man rinses his eyes after he was sprayed by police with a crowd dispersant in the aftermath of rioting following Monday's funeral for Freddie Gray.
MATT ROURKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

National Guard in Baltimore

FREDDIE GRAY DEATH

Governor vows to prevent another round of rioting

Baltimore was a city on edge Tuesday as hundreds of National Guardsmen patrolled the streets against unrest for the first time since 1968, hoping to prevent another outbreak of rioting.

Maryland's governor said 2,000 Guardsmen and 1,000 law officers would be in place overnight to try to prevent a repeat of the unrest that erupted Monday in some of the city's poorest neighbourhoods and sent a shudder through all of Baltimore.

"This combined force will not tolerate violence or looting," Gov. Larry Hogan warned.

In a measure of how tense things were, the city was under a 10 p.m.-to-5 a.m. emergency curfew. All public schools were closed. And the Baltimore Orioles cancelled Tuesday night's game at Camden Yards and — in what may be a first in baseball's 145-year history — announced that Wednesday's game will be closed to the public.

The streets were largely calm all morning and into the evening. But police with riot shields lined up shoulder to shoulder and kept close watch over a growing, chanting crowd of about 1,000 people at the corner where some of the worst violence took place the night before.

> **It brought a tear to my eye. Seeing it doesn't feel like the city that I love ... I am glad they're here, but it's hard to watch.**
> Resident Jascy Jones about the sight of National Guardsmen on the street

The real test was expected after dark, with the start of the curfew.

The looting and rock- and bottle-throwing by mostly black rioters broke out just hours after the funeral of Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old black man who suffered a fatal spinal cord injury while in police custody. It was the worst such violence in the U.S. since the unrest that erupted last year over the death of Michael Brown, the unarmed black 18-year-old shot by a white police officer in Ferguson, Mo.

Political leaders and residents called the violence a tragedy for the city and lamented the damage done by the rioters to their own neighbourhoods.

"The same community they say they care about, they're destroying. You can't have it both ways," Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake said.

Baltimore Police Commissioner Anthony Batts said: "I had officers come up to me and say, 'I was born and raised in this city. This makes me cry.'"

But the rioting also brought out a sense of civic pride and responsibility among many Baltimore residents, with hundreds of volunteers turning out to sweep the streets of glass and other debris with brooms and trash bags donated by hardware stores.

Blanca Tapahuasco brought her three sons, ages 2 to 8, from another part of the city to help clean up the brick-and-pavement courtyard outside a looted CVS pharmacy in the hard-hit neighbourhood where Gray was arrested.

"We're helping the neighbourhood build back up," she said. "This is an encouragement to them to know the rest of the city is not just looking on and wondering what to do."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HISTORY

The crisis marks the first time the National Guard has been called out to deal with unrest in Baltimore since 1968, when some of the same neighbourhoods that rose up this week burned for days after the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

In the wake of the riots, Orioles will play White Sox on Wednesday in closed-doors game; weekend series shifted to Florida. More on page 25.

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Desperate residents still awaiting help in Nepal

PASLANG

In the wake of Saturday's quake, isolated villages have yet to receive aid

There is almost nothing left of the village of Paslang, Nepal, but enormous piles of broken red bricks and heaps of mud and dust.

One of those piles was once Bhoj Kumar Thapa's home, where his pregnant wife pushed their five-year-old daughter to safety in a last, desperate act before it collapsed and killed her during Saturday's earthquake.

On Tuesday, Thapa and others in Paslang were still waiting for the government to deliver food, tents — any kind of aid — to this poor mountain village near the epicentre of the quake that killed more than 4,700 people, injured over 8,000 and left tens of thousands homeless.

"When I got home, there was nothing," said Thapa, an army soldier. "Everything was broken. My wife — she was dead."

He was put on leave from his army unit to mourn, one of the few Nepalese soldiers not deployed in the country's massive rescue and recovery operation. But instead of sadness, there is anger.

"Only the other villagers who have also lost their homes are helping me. But we get nothing from the government," Thapa said.

An official came, took some pictures and left — without delivering anything to the village of about 300 people north of the capital of Kathmandu, he said.

Paslang is only three kilometres up the mountain from the town of Gorkha, the district headquarters and staging area for rescue and aid operations. But the villagers, who have no idea when they might get help, are still sleeping together in the mud and sharing whatever scraps of food they can pull from beneath their ruined buildings. Three in the hamlet have died.

A woman recovers cooking pots from her collapsed home in Paslang near the epicentre of Saturday's massive earthquake in the Gorkha District of Nepal, Tuesday. WALLY SANTANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Only the other villagers who have also lost their homes are helping me. But we get nothing from the government.**
> Bhoj Kumar Thapa, Paslang resident

Officials and foreign aid workers who have rushed to Nepal following the magnitude 7.8 earthquake are struggling against stormy weather, poor roads and a shortage of manpower and funds to get assistance to the needy. On Tuesday, the district managed to co-ordinate 26 helicopter trips to remote villages to evacuate 30 injured people before a major downpour halted the effort.

"We need 15,000 plastic tarps alone. We cannot buy that number," said Mohan Pokhran, a district disaster management committee member.

Only 50 volunteer army and police officers are distributing food and aid for thousands in the immediate vicinity, he said.

Some in Paslang have seen sacks of food being flown by helicopter to remote regions reachable only by air, without stopping. The arrival in the village of a diesel generator Tuesday, brought by "a nice charity man" from a foreign aid group that no one could identify, brought moments of much-needed elation as dozens crowded around to charge their cellphones on four attached power sockets.

Sitting in the mud and sharing tea made over an open fire with his wife and children, Tilak Bahadur Rana, a farmer, confessed he was losing heart.

"Because of this earthquake, the whole village is destroyed. We need food. We need a place to sleep, or compensation for all we have lost," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Nigerian army says it has rescued 200 girls

The Nigerian army said Tuesday it has rescued 200 girls and 93 women in the Sambisa Forest, but could not confirm if any of those freed are the Chibok schoolgirls kidnapped a year ago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At least 52 killed in massive landslide in Afghanistan

A landslide in a remote province in northeastern Afghanistan killed at least 52 people on Tuesday, a provincial official said. The stricken area in Badakhshan province is cut off from the rest of the country, covered in snow and only accessible from the air, significantly hampering any rescue efforts, said Shah Waliullah Adeeb, the provincial governor. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Execution of drug convict delayed in Indonesia

A Filipina woman convicted of drug smuggling in Indonesia — one of nine people due to face a firing squad — has been granted a stay of execution, Indonesia's attorney general Muhammad Prasetyo said Wednesday. Mary Jane Fiesta Veloso was arrested in 2010 at an airport in the city of Yogyakarta, where officials discovered about 2.5 kilograms of heroin hidden in her luggage. Prasetyo said Veloso was granted a stay of execution because her alleged boss has been arrested in the Philippines, and the authorities there requested Indonesian assistance in pursuing the case. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bamboo, an Asian elephant, walks in her enclosure at the Woodland Park Zoo, in Seattle, Washington State. Facilities like Seattle's have already made the difficult and controversial decision to move their elephants to another zoo so they can join a larger herd. ELAINE THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zoos begin to realize they're not best place for elephants

UNITED STATES

Activists claim animals don't get space they need to thrive

Visitors flocked to the leafy enclosure at Seattle's zoo to watch the two elephants, Chai and Bamboo, as they used their long trunks to play with balls and snack on carrots and apples.

The elephants would sometimes exhibit other behaviour. Chai would pace from side to side and bob her head up and down — a sign, animal activists say, of the stress of being confined inside the one-acre area.

It is common behaviour, and a growing number of people feel the giant animals — hard-wired to roam free across thousands of square miles in Africa and Asia — don't have a place in American zoos.

Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo recently made the difficult and controversial decision to close its popular elephant exhibit and move Chai and Bamboo to a larger zoo in Oklahoma so they can join a larger herd.

Others, like the Bronx Zoo in New York City, say they are moving in the same direction, but will wait until one or more of their existing herd dies. And zoos like Detroit have already retired their pachyderms to one of two U.S. animal refuges.

Many zoos say they can't give elephants the space they need. Elephants are also social animals that prefer to live in a herd, but that is hard to provide as their numbers dwindle, both in captivity and in the wild.

At the same time, national guidelines adopted in 2011 would require some zoos to close their elephant programs by 2017 if they cannot increase their herds and expand their facilities.

Some North American zoos have as few as one elephant, said Rob Vernon, spokesman for the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, which drew up the guidelines. The new rules encourage a herd of at least three elephants.

Woodland Park Zoo, which has had elephants in its care since 1921, started discussing the future of its herd after a third pachyderm died in 2014.

A community task force recommended in 2013 that the zoo bring in more elephants and expand its facilities, but zoo President and CEO Deborah Jensen said those goals were not achievable, in part because it's so difficult to obtain new elephants.

In the end, Seattle decided their best choice was Oklahoma, where 36-year-old Chai and 48-year-old Bamboo may become the old "aunties" of the herd, Jensen said.

Activists who protested Seattle's decision believe the right place for older elephants to "retire" is at one of the nation's two sanctuaries, in California or Tennessee.

Toni Frohoff, director of In Defence of Animals' elephant campaign, said the Seattle zoo could have made a worse choice than Oklahoma, but she thinks the best choice would have been a sanctuary.

Chai and Bamboo are currently in San Diego, where they were temporarily rerouted because of bad weather on their way to Oklahoma.

There's very little consensus — even among animal experts — about what is the right choice to make for the elephants currently in American zoos. Bringing more Asian or African elephants to this country no longer seems feasible, and breeding programs have been minimally successful.

Officials in Seattle, which was forced into court over its decision to move its elephants to Oklahoma, say they did what they thought would be best.

Jensen was frustrated with the intense focus on Seattle's decision. "The question is: Are we going to share the earth with elephants?'' she asked, noting that African elephants are being killed at the rate of 96 a day or 30,000 a year, for their ivory. "Sadly, I am pessimistic." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The question is: Are we going to share the earth with elephants? ... Sadly, I am pessimistic.

Deborah Jensen, President and CEO of Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo

BACKGROUND

As of December 2014, there were 159 African elephants at 39 North American zoos and 139 Asian elephants at 34 zoos in the U.S. and Canada, according to the Maryland-based Association of Zoos & Aquariums. The group In Defence of Animals says 21 zoos in North America have closed their elephant exhibits since 1991.

PEER-TO-PEER LENDING

U.S. lender OnDeck expands to Canada

OnDeck Capital, a U.S.-based online marketplace where small businesses can secure loans, is expanding its offerings in Canada, joining a growing number of technology-oriented lenders that promise to transform the financial services landscape.

Experts say Canada has been slow to embrace peer-to-peer lending, a burgeoning industry that provides consumers and small business owners an alternative to the banks by pairing them with institutional investors and wealthy individuals willing to lend them cash.

The concept is gaining popularity south of the border, as well as in parts of Europe and in China.

"Innovations often take longer to arrive here," says Andrew Graham, the chief executive of Toronto-based Borrowell, an online platform launched a month ago that allows consumers to borrow money at rates ranging from 5.9 to 18 per cent.

After an initial trial period where it offered small loans — $50,000 or less — to Canadian firms, OnDeck has set its sights on expanding north of the border, joining a handful of homegrown startups including Fundthrough, which lends to small businesses, and Grouplend and Borrowell, serving consumers.

OnDeck, which has delivered over $2 billion in loans since 2007, will now be offering loans of up to $150,000 to Canadian companies.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

China beats France in vineyard space

China now boasts more land dedicated to winemaking vineyards than France, as it tries to satisfy a rapid rise in local demand.

China's vineyards grew to 800,000 hectares last year, putting it behind No. 1 grower Spain but ahead of France.

Because its production is less effective than more established winemaking countries, China's output is only the seventh-biggest, according to figures released Monday by the Paris-based International Organization of Vine and Wine.

France took over the title of top producer from Italy last year, with 46.7 million hectolitres, or 6.2 billion bottles. EU countries have intentionally reduced vineyards in recent years to make them more efficient and improve quality.

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The 15 finalists nominated for the World Video Game Hall of Fame, from left, Pac-Man, Space Invaders, Sonic the Hedgehog, Minecraft, the Sims, Super Mario Bros., Doom, top, World of Warcraft, centre, Pokemon series, bottom, the Legend of Zelda, the Oregon Trail, Tetris, FIFA soccer, Angry Birds, Pong. BETHANY MOSHER-THE STRONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

15 video games make Hall of Fame shortlist

THE STRONG MUSEUM

Finalists include Pong, Angry Birds, Minecraft

Fifteen video games that have engrossed gamers for untold hours were named finalists Tuesday for the new World Video Game Hall of Fame.

The list includes arcade trailblazers Pong and Space Invaders, smartphone favourites Angry Birds and Minecraft and an array of others for console and computer.

Only a handful will make up the hall of fame's inaugural class, to be chosen by an international selection committee of journalists, scholars and other video game experts.

The induction ceremony is scheduled for June 4 inside The Strong museum in Rochester, N.Y., which also houses the National Toy Hall of Fame.

"The 15 finalists for the World Video Game Hall of Fame span decades, gaming platforms and geographies," said Jon-Paul Dyson, director of the museum's International Center for the History of Electronic Games. "Whether it's the groundbreaking game Pong or a more recent viral sensation like Minecraft, all of these games have helped shape the way that people across the globe play and relate to one another."

To make it into the hall of fame, games must have icon status, prove to be more than a passing fad and leave a mark on other games or forms of entertainment, pop culture or society in general.

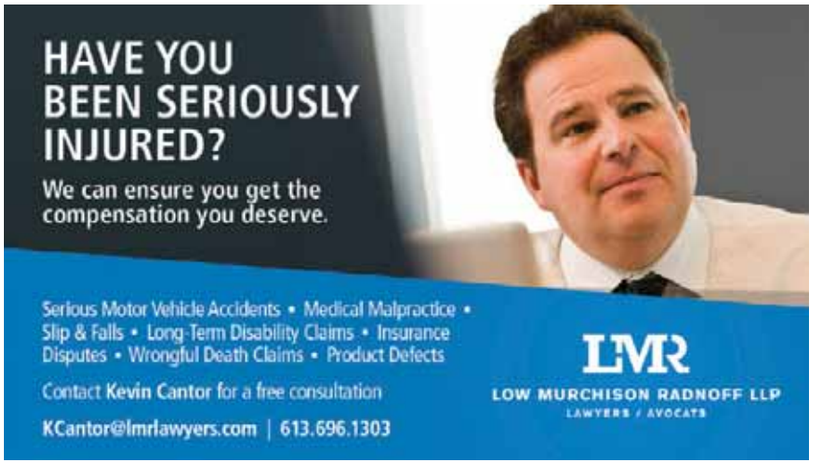
The Strong said it received thousands of nominations since February, when it announced creation of the video game hall to recognize the impact of electronic games through the years. Anyone can nominate a game online.

The museum's electronic games centre has more than 55,000 video games and related artifacts, along with personal papers and corporate records that document the history of video games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOP 15

The finalists are:
Pong, Space Invaders, Angry Birds, Minecraft, Doom, FIFA soccer, the Legend of Zelda, the Oregon Trail, Pac-Man, Pokemon, the Sims, Sonic the Hedgehog, Super Mario Bros., Tetris and World of Warcraft.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PRO CON METRO EXAMINES BOTH SIDES OF THE CANADA POST CONTROVERSY

Are community mailboxes good for community?

NO: They'll destroy the fabric of our great country

Boxes are not always installed with municipal approval or co-ordination (which prompted a court challenge this week from the City of Hamilton against Canada Post). A big, ugly metal superbox on or near your home can lower property values. Canada Post's refusal to add recycling bins will inevitably lead to more litter as not everyone will bother to lug home their junk mail. As our already brutal winters become increasingly more freakish, walking or driving to get essential documents will become dangerous or impossible for many. The keys don't always work. And for those with mobility issues, we wish you luck as you navigate the bureaucratic rigamarole of proving you deserve special dispensation for home delivery once a week.

YES: But only if we use imagination and planning...

The visionary view is that random encounters — and increased interactions as people gather to collect their mail — could improve quality of life for many. But this happy scenario will require more than just dumping a metal box on the edge of a lonely road. Imagine if beautifully designed mailboxes were incorporated into a local café or community centre — a destination you could walk or drive to with a friend, where you could have a cuppa and gossip about the day's news, check out community events on a notice board, or cruise the Internet. Early humankind gathered around a communal fire not just for warmth, but for much-needed human contact. Wouldn't it be wonderful if community mailboxes could resurrect that kind of ritual?

Satire fails, if it serves only the privileged

SOCIAL DISCOURSE

Omar Mouallem

I never thought I'd hold the PEN American Center's Freedom of Expression Courage awards and Adam Sandler in the same thought. But events this week brought their worlds closer together after both were boycotted over racial stereotyping.

The PEN honoree, Charlie Hebdo magazine, mocked underprivileged minorities, according to six esteemed authors boycotting the ceremony. Sandler's in-production movie, The Ridiculous 6, flagrantly dismissed the advice of its Native American cultural consultants and extras until they walked off the set.

Satire isn't supposed to be sacred, which is the very thing that makes it sacred. It shows deference to no one. But it can also cross a line and become a way for the empowered to bully the disempowered.

In recent years, similar criticisms have been thrown at 2 Broke Girls' asexual Asian workhorse tropes, The New Yorker's "fist bump" cover featuring a turbanned Obama with wife Michelle as a gun-toting revolutionary, and Tina Fey's new comedy Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt — for, among other things, a weird subplot featuring Polish-American actor Jane Krakowski's character as Native American.

Some of these criticisms are valid, others misconstrued. Together they indicate growing empathy for oppressed groups. But does the frequency of these criticisms mean audiences are becoming more sophisticated, or oversensitive?

Certainly it's become much harder to get away with casual racism since the 1990s, when Sandler teased gays, Asians, women and his own Jewish clan with equal opportunity. But there's something deeply disturbing about The Ridiculous 6. One scene shows an indigenous woman falling down drunk before being roused by white men pouring liquor on her.

Are audiences becoming more sophisticated? Or oversensitive?

Netflix, producers of The Ridiculous 6, defended Sandler: "It is a broad satire of Western movies and the stereotypes they popularized, featuring a diverse cast that is not only part of — but in on — the joke." Call me skeptical but, when actors from a group that, according to one study, gets an average of 196.5 seconds of screen time per appearance, are involved, I doubt they were in on anything.

Growing up, I rarely saw an Arab depicted in comedy who wasn't a sex-crazed sheik, muted and submissive harem slave or violent radical. Even as a child I recognized it as cruel and hurtful. Charlie Hebdo has shown these portrayals are as prevalent and problematic as ever, but also that excessive sensitivity can be more damaging.

Satire isn't an exact science. That's why it's art. But even the lowest-brow art is best when it challenges the audience's expectations — if not for the sake of social commentary, then just because upending clichés makes for better entertainment. When comedy instead supports ridicule, it only serves the privileged.

Omar Mouallem (@omar_aok) is based in Edmonton and edits the Yards. Social Discourse appears every other Wednesday.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

"Asking advertisers to stop exploiting our insecurities is naive"

Protein World just wanted to sell some diet pills.

Instead, the company has raised women's ire over a sexed-up ad campaign on the London Underground featuring a bikini-clad woman.

"The image features bold writing asking commuters 'Are you beach body ready?' when it might as well say 'Do you feel rubbish yet?'" wrote protester Tara Costello.

Women are defacing the ads. There's a "taking back the beach" rally planned and a petition to get the ads removed, which the transit authority is sidestepping since the ads are set to come down today.

Stop trying to make us feel bad, the protesters are demanding. Fat chance.

"That's what advertising does," said Jacqueline Lambiase, professor at Texas Christian University, who's been researching sex and women in the media for 25 years.

Advertising preys on our emotions, an idea, Lambiase noted, that goes back to Aristotle, and manipulates our insecurities, a tactic devised in the early 1900s to sell mouthwash and used ever since.

Asking advertisers to stop creating insecurities and exploiting existing ones is naive.

Even companies that seem to be selling an enlightened view of women — Always' #LikeAGirl Super Bowl ad and Dove's #choosebeautiful campaign — have one basic goal, and it's not boosting your female empowerment. It's getting your money.

"I'm pretty skeptical about those kinds of attempts," Lambiase told me. "Brands are only trying to sell themselves. They can't really do anything else in the world."

If you want to praise Dove's #choosebeautiful campaign (which has appeared in this newspaper and tells women: "Beautiful is a choice. One you make every single day"), praise it on the only measure it deserves: sales figures.

Yes, we should still fight the worst offenders, even when it raises their profile (as the backlash has for Protein World). It's well known that ads can negatively impact self-esteem and body image.

But, as Lambiase argued, we also need to boost our resilience against these messages through better media literacy, especially in an age of heightened sexualization, where what was considered pornography in the 1960s is now fair game for advertisers.

There is no healthy image of womanhood, or personhood, in an industry that only sees consumers. There are no allies in the advertising business, and you can't bully Victoria's Secret into doing anything less than making you feel incomplete without their bras.

The key isn't to ask advertisers to sell us a nicer story. It's to stop listening.

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Rescue mission: Swiss ski resort bans Saint Bernard selfies after complaints about working conditions

Beer: It's not just for BBQs

FOOD AND DRINK

Picking the right brew can take your meal to the next level

Food lovers need not turn to wine and cocktails when they want to enjoy a meal.

Metro talked to Toronto-based brew specialist Mirella Amato and Elyse Carlucci of Blue Point Brewing Company in the U.S. about how to best pair beer with different dishes.

"I've come up with a two-step system that will yield a decent pairing. It might yield a delicious pairing, but it will certainly yield a solid one," said Amato.

The first step is intensity. Both Amato and Carlucci say you want to match the intensity of your beer with the intensity of the dish you intend to pair it with.

"If I have a light salad and I pair that with a really roasty, full-bodied, Russian imperial stout, I'm not going to be able to taste my salad," says Amato, author of Beerology: Everything You Need to Know to Enjoy Beer ... Even More, which includes a chapter on beer pairings.

"If I have a thick stew with vegetables and spices and meat and I pair that with a light lager, the flavour of the lager will be completely lost."

Amato says the second step is not in any of the literature she's read — it's more of an insider tip.

"Line up the colour intensity of your beer with the colour intensity of the main ingredient of your dish."

Carlucci says while you can do contrast pairings, they are difficult for novices to pull off.

She does, however, recommend contrast pairings for newbies in one situation: "If you're looking to cool down the heat in a really spicy dish, contrast it with wheat beers, like white styles or pilsners. That's the only time where a contrast for novices might be a good thing."

Here, Amato and Carlucci share some of their favourite pairings for different foods. A list of Canadian options provided by Amato is included at the end of each category.

Bier Markt's Merchant Burger is paired with a Red Racer by Central City Brewing at their King Street location in Toronto. Beer expert Mirella Amato says British-style pale ales have a complexity of flavours that go really well with a burger. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Fish: Amato and Carlucci agree that wheat beers are a safe bet for most fish dishes.

"Belgian-style wheat beers have orange peel and coriander and that yields citrus flavours, which of course go great with fish," says Amato.

"There's also no bitterness, which can sometimes combine with an oilier fish to give a slightly unpleasant taste."

Examples:

- Mill Street's Belgian Wit (Ontario)
- Garrison's Nit Wit (Nova Scotia)
- Driftwood Brewery's White Bark (British Columbia)

Chicken or pork: "You can go with a more traditional lager style," says Carlucci of medium-bodied proteins.

"Stick with medium intensity beers that have more flavour, but not a lot of hops."

Carlucci suggests Blue Point Toasted Lager and Anchor Brewing Breckle's Brown.

Amato takes it back to her colour principle.

"If you are looking to pair beer with chicken or white fish, you want to go with a gold to pale amber beer. If you're getting into salmon, pork, lentils, you want a deeper amber beer."

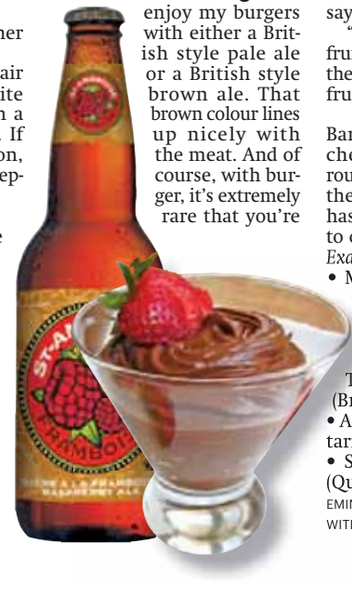
Examples:

- Golden lager, like Tree Brewing's Beach Blonde (British Columbia)
- Golden ale, like Boréale Blonde (Quebec)
- Kölsch-style ale, like Beau's Lug-Tread Lagered Ale (Ontario)
- Märzen, like Paddock Wood's Red Hammer (Saskatchewan)
- Bock, like Hoyne The Big Bock (British Columbia)
- American-style pale ale, like Great Lakes Canuck Pale Ale (Ontario)
- Saison, like Hopfenstark's Saison Station 16 (Quebec)

Classic burger: "I enjoy my burgers with either a British style pale ale or a British style brown ale. That brown colour lines up nicely with the meat. And of course, with burger, it's extremely rare that you're going to have it plain — there's a lot of flavours there and British-style ales have a complexity of flavours," says Amato.

Examples:

- Picaroons Best Bitter (New Brunswick).
- Central City Brewers Red Racer (British Columbia).
- Black Oak's Nut Brown Ale (Ontario)



Veggie Curry: "If you are eating a curry vegetarian dish, try the Blue Point Mosaic Session IPA or Firestone Walker Pivo Hoppy Pilsner," says Carlucci. "Both have aromatic hops, but not the bitter taste you might expect from IPA styles."

For something like a Thai-style veggie curry, Amato says a triple works well. "You want a beer with enough carbonation to cut through the richness and maybe a bit of bitterness as well."

Example:

- Unibroue's La Fin Du Monde (Quebec)

Desserts: Pairing beer with desserts all depends on what you're serving.

"If you like more fruity desserts, there are some really good fruit lambics out there and that's a great style for someone who likes fruitier cocktails or has a sweeter palate," says Carlucci.

"There are a lot of great beers out there that have fruit undertones."

As for heavier desserts like a dark chocolate mousse, Amato says you can go two ways.

"A really intensely fruity fruit beer is delightful because then you get the chocolate and fruit thing."

She also recommends a Barley wine, "a really thick, chewy beer — it has got a roundness to it, which mirrors the mousse nicely, but it also has a higher alcohol content to cut through the richness."

Examples:

- Mill Street's Barley Wine (Ontario)
- Garrison Ol' Fog Burner (Nova Scotia)
- Central City Brewing's Thor's Hammer Barley Wine (British Columbia)
- Amsterdam's Framboise (Ontario).
- St Ambroise's Framboise (Quebec)

EMINA GAMULIN/METRO
WITH FILES FROM ANDREA PARK

It's a crackin' good time

MARITIME TREAT

Lobster best enjoyed in casual setting, chef says

For many Canadians, lobster is a dress-up, special-occasion food eaten at a fancy restaurant.

"But it should be the total opposite," says Alain Bosse, a.k.a. The Kilted Chef, of Pictou County, N.S.

"You should be dressing down and eating it at your picnic table."

The food consultant and "ambassador of all things culinary in Atlantic Canada" says the Maritimes "have the best lobster in the world."

"We have the most pristine water and because of our cold climate, our shells are harder and meatier. We end up with a good, hard-shelled quality lobster that's full of meat, versus a soft-shell lobster that's moulting," he says.

"And we sell more lobster than anywhere else in the world, Maine included."

The Halifax-based Lobster Council of Canada's executive director, Geoff Irvine, confirms Canada provides more than half the world's supply of live and processed hard-shell Atlantic lobster, with an export value last year of $1.5 billion.

The industry is highly regulated, Irvine says.

The Atlantic Coast (there's no lobster on the West Coast) is divided into 41 "lobster fishery areas" (LFAs), each with its own "season" — a starting and finishing date. Fishers are licensed for specific areas. May and December are peak production times, but at least one LFA is in operation in any given month.

These staggered seasons encourage sustainability but also protect summer moults. Lobsters shed their shells to grow and are at their best when the new shells have hardened and are full of meat.

About 40 per cent of the lobster catch is delivered live to customers and 60 per cent is processed into "literally hundreds of products," Irvine says.

Despite accessibility to fresh lobster, Bosse still calls it a "wonderful treat." But that accessibility may explain a more casual approach to a lobster dinner in the Maritimes, including roadside "pounds" where the only accompaniments may be a paper plate and plastic utensils.

"Typically in Atlantic Canada, we eat lobster cold, dipped in hot butter," he says. "And we always eat it either with french fries, potato salad or french bread."

HEALTH-WISE

Hard-shell lobster has fewer than 100 calories per 100-gram serving, with 89 per cent of calories from protein. It's low in fat and carbohydrates, has virtually no saturated fats and is a good source of vitamins and minerals.

A little education takes the intimidation factor out of cooking lobster. ISTOCK

Cooking tips

• If unfamiliar with the crustacean, a great way to start is to buy it — raw or cooked — already fully or partly removed from the shell. That eliminates the issues of dropping live lobsters into boiling water to cook and of wrestling the meat out of the full shell.

• Overcooking is probably the most common mistake, Bosse says. A 625-gram (1.25-pound) raw lobster "takes about 12 minutes in boiling water or steamed and you only add a minute per quarter-pound (125 g). A lobster tail, stuffed with butter and baked in the oven, takes six or eight minutes at 350 or 400 F (180 or 200 C)."

• Lobster meat is cooked "when it starts to become opaque — a nice white colour." For whole lobster, if you pull the tentacle and it releases fairly easily, the lobster's cooked.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WINE

Chard helps seafood sing

LIQUID ASSETS

Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy

When I began my journey down the long and winding wine road, learning more about what I was drinking, other than what was written on the back of the bottle, was a struggle. With no Internet, meeting winemakers face-to-face was the only way to get an insider's peek under a winery's tent.

A recent tasting with Margo Van Staaveren, the longtime winemaker at California's Chateau St Jean, reminded me that it's still hard to beat that kind of interaction.

Founded in 1973, St Jean has been a Golden State pioneer when it comes to wines produced from specific vineyards.

While Van Staaveren creates plenty of liquid magic from those individual plots, her straightforward Chateau St Jean 2012 Sonoma County Chardonnay ($18.95-$19.99) represents her efforts equally as well.

Like me, she's an unabashed Chardonnay fan and the soft, tropical fruit and balanced, buttery oak influence in this chard tastes as good on its own as it does with rich seafood and dishes dominated by springtime veggies. PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

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VERSATILE INGREDIENT

Go with the season, spring a leek

WORD OF MOUTH

Theresa Albert
myfriendinfood.com

One of the first greens to pop up in the spring are wild leeks. Foraging for food is a hipster renewal of ancient skills and I like the reinforcement of the idea that food comes from the earth, not the grocer.

Head to forested areas where trees have dropped their leaves to a brown and thawed ground. For about three to four weeks after the frost has passed the only thing green will be clusters of dagger-like leaves about three inches tall and solid green with a red and white stem. Pull one or two to find a white bulb that smells distinctly like onion and you have hit pay dirt! Don't overharvest; leave half of each cluster to proliferate next season.

OK, so you don't want to forage but you do want to find leeks at the grocery store. The commercial variety has a thick, hardy stalk of stacked circular layers. The pale part is edible but the tops are too tough and can only be used in making stock.

Leeks have a milder, sweeter taste than onion and a much prettier presentation. Nutritionally, they are about the same with the exception that leeks have slightly less sugar and much more Vitamin A.

Some creative ways to use leeks, beyond the traditional leek and potato soup, include:

• Sauté an entire pan in butter and freeze in ice cube trays.

• Spread onto warm baguette and top with goat's cheese.

• Use as a base for quick sauces or soups.

• Blend with herbs and Greek yogurt for a great dip.

• Slice lengthwise and rinse well. Store in vinegar with salt in glass jars in the fridge for 24 hours to "pickle". Serve with sandwiches and keep refrigerated for up to two weeks.

THERESA IS AN ON-CAMERA FOOD AND HEALTH EXPERT, NUTRITIONIST AND WRITER WHO LOVES TO SPREAD THE WORD ON FOOD.

French actresses Marion Cotillard (below) and Léa Seydoux will star in Juste La Fin Du Monde by director Xavier Dolan. GETTY

French stars sign on for Dolan film

XAVIER DOLAN

Director's latest tells story of man announcing his pending death

Production is set to begin next month on Xavier Dolan's next film, a French-language feature starring Marion Cotillard, Léa Seydoux and Vincent Cassel.

Dolan says he's thrilled to work with such "inspiring talent" on It's Only the End of the World (Juste La Fin Du Monde). The Canada-France co-production also stars Nathalie Baye and Gaspard Ulliel.

The film is based on a play by Jean-Luc Lagarce of the same name.

It centres on a writer who returns to his hometown, planning to announce his upcoming death to his family.

Dolan says he was introduced to the play many years ago by muse Anne Dorval, whose Dolan credits include Mommy and I Killed My Mother.

The Quebec writer/director says he will shoot the film in late May before starting on his first English-language project, The Life and Death of John F. Donovan, starring Kit Harington and Jessica Chastain.

Dolan says he hopes It's Only the End of the World could bridge the genre chasm between his mother-son drama Mommy and John F.

"It's the second time I'm adapting a play and I have to admit that so far, for me, novels and plays have been the regal road to screenwriting," Dolan said in a release.

"I love adaptations and they challenge me in a different way. It's humbling to translate someone's world, someone's intimate creation to the screen."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GOSSIP NOTES What people are talking about this week

McDreamy McTardy?

Ned Ehrbar
In Hollywood

Now that you've recovered from the sudden death of Patrick Dempsey's Grey's Anatomy character, it's time to dig into exactly why McDreamy had to go and slip this mortal TV coil.

"Shonda (Rhimes) had no other choice but to fire Patrick. He had been showing up late and was holding up production because he couldn't remember his lines," a source tells Radar Online.

"Shonda shouldn't be blamed. This is on Patrick and no one else."

And apparently Rhimes gave Dempsey a chance to fix his behaviour, but he didn't take it.

Michelle who?

A British soap star you've probably never heard of, at least according to FHM, is apparently the hottest woman on the planet.

The lad magazine has dubbed Coronation Street star Michelle Keegan 2015's Sexiest Woman in the World after coming in second last year.

Kendall Jenner takes second place this year, while Jennifer Lawrence, last year's title-holder, drops to third.

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You're never really dead on The X-Files

David Duchovny, Gillian Anderson and director Chris Carter stand together during the British Columbia production of the 2008 film The X-Files: I Want to Believe. They will be returning for a new six-episode series. DIYAH PERA/20TH CENTURY FOX HANDOUT

INTERVIEW WITH CREATOR

The Smoking Man is back but don't expect a Mulder and Scully sex scene

X-Files creator Chris Carter returns to Vancouver to shoot a new batch of his sci-fi tales, picking up eight years after we last saw paranormal experts Fox Mulder and Dana Scully.

In addition to stars David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson, Carter says fans can expect Mitch Pileggi to return as Walter Skinner and William B. Davis as "The Smoking Man," even though that character was killed off.

"As we say in The X-Files, even though you're dead, you're never really dead," says Carter, adding there's "a big chance" the Lone Gunmen will also return.

Carter is at a Vancouver International Film Festival industry reception Wednesday in honour of National Canadian Film Day. He talked about how things will play out in the new episodes.

What will we see in these six new episodes? Are they standalone or serialized?

You really get what you have come to expect with The X-Files, which is a combination of the ongoing Mulder and Scully conspiracy saga, relationship and standalone episodes that will come interspersed. That said, it will all be of a piece, meaning that it won't feel disconnected. It'll all feel as if it's taking place in what I would call television "real time."

What is their relationship?

As we saw in the second movie they were together, not married. Living together. But when we come back we will find that relationship is not where we left it.

Fans still haven't gotten a proper love scene. Mulder and Scully had a child together, so why was their relationship never explicitly consummated?

It was part of the mystery of The X-Files. That relationship was kind of mysterious. Did they get together? Didn't they get together? If they've got a child together, when did they get together? These are questions that we will deal with and answer in good time.

How have they changed?

They've grown up. They've matured, their sensibilities have matured, their relationship has matured and evolved.

You know during the course of the show, Scully the skeptic actually became the believer and Mulder the believer actually became the skeptic and then that switched back. So there have been many changes. ... These characters who are true to themselves have gone through many changes and we'll play that in this series of six.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The Avengers reassemble

The cast of Age of Ultron battles out-of-control AI onscreen — and in real life they're not so sure about tech. Here the cast talks about what gadgets they embrace and what they fear. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Robert Downey Jr.

I feel you have to embrace it. You know, there's always that shadow play that goes on, particularly in entertainment where it just goes wild and takes over and all of that stuff. But look, it took over a while ago, metaphorically speaking, just by people who were just strung out on their iPhones.

Mark Ruffalo

You get into automated artificial intelligence weaponry, which is being developed now. ... Who knows where that's going to go but it's not an accident that as (Tesla CEO) Elon Musk and Stephen Hawking come out against artificial intelligence and say, 'Hey guys, this is scary. We should slow it down,' that this movie pops up in the collective subconscious.

Elizabeth Olsen

I can't advance with the times. My mother doesn't even know how to check her messages on her cellphone. So I'm my mother's daughter. My mom doesn't have email. I like technology for like, health improvement. I don't like technology for quicker information, faster.

Chris Hemsworth

I love robots. Especially if they can clean up around the house, change nappies and things like that. That's what I'm excited about. I want, like, talking robots, to tell them my problems and stuff like that. That will be a real plus for me.

Cobie Smulders

I still can't figure out how to use my phone. I'm just getting email. I'm just understanding that process. I feel like it's happening so rapidly and I just can't keep up with it.

Paul Bettany

(Technology) is a double-edged sword, isn't it? You can 3D-print an arm for a kid ... but also you can be cut off from your children. I sit with my children and play, and I hear my phone go 'beep.' And even if I don't go to it, I'm thinking (about it).

INTERVIEW

Paul Bettany is a futuristic Vision — but he can't hear you

Paul Bettany couldn't hear anything.

When the 43-year-old actor initially donned a noggin-encasing headpiece to portray the mysterious Vision in Avengers: Age of Ultron, in theatres Friday, Bettany could barely make out what anyone was saying around him. That isolation ended up fuelling his imposing performance in the followup to the 2012 smash that brought together Marvel's mightiest heroes.

"I would go to a place of real Zen, where I meditated on the line of thousands and thousands of actors that would love to be in my position in an uncomfortable suit," said Bettany in a recent interview at Disney Studios. "However, I would be lying to say it didn't take a great deal of (expletive) effort not to rip it off. They ended up drilling holes in it because I literally couldn't hear anything."

After five years of voicing Tony Stark's soothing operating system sidekick J.A.R.V.I.S. in the previous Avengers and Iron Man films, Bettany's role as the purple-skinned Vision marks the first time in front of the cameras in a Marvel film for the lanky British actor best known for starring in such films as Wimbledon, The Da Vinci Code and Priest.

"The first day I walked on set, Robert (Downey Jr.) made a lovely speech welcoming me," said Bettany. "Everybody was completely convivial and pleasant. They were making jokes — or at least I think they were making jokes because I couldn't hear a (expletive) thing. It's actually a really nice atmosphere on those sets. Often, it's not like that."

Bettany is portraying perhaps the best-kept secret of the second Avengers outing. In the comics, the commanding Vision is a type of android dubbed a "synthzoid" by Ultron, the nefarious robot that created him. The cinematic rendition is similarly fashioned by Ultron (played by James Spader as an evil artificial intelligence program).

However, this Vision might not be what he seems.

"He's an android, technically, but I would say he's what's next," said writer-director Joss Whedon.

"He's more evolved than the rest of us, which may prove to be a good thing or not. To me, this Vision feels like what it meant to me to read him as a kid. He has that calm distance but is also strangely emotional. Paul is just soooo phenomenal as him." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paul Bettany, who plays Vision in Avengers: Age of Ultron, could barely hear while wearing the costume's headpiece. CONTRIBUTED

ORLANDO EYE

Wallenda prepares for craziest stunt yet

In the days leading up to one of his craziest stunts ever, tightrope walker Nik Wallenda has done the following: drop his kid off at school, paint windowsills, mow the lawn.

"It's not like I'm preparing for the end of my life," laughs the 36-year-old Sarasota, Florida, resident. "I'm a father, a husband and a homeowner."

One with a highly unusual, risky job. Born into a famous family of daredevils, Wallenda has traversed a tightrope stretched across the Grand Canyon, Niagara Falls and in between skyscrapers in Chicago.

On Wednesday, Wallenda will walk untethered atop the 400-foot high Orlando Eye, the city's new, flashy observation Ferris wheel — as it spins.

He won't use a balancing pole and won't have a safety net. The walk will be broadcast live on NBC's Today. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nik Wallenda wipes his forehead during a high-wire act in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 2011. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Rolls-Royce's Phantom Limelight Collection features leather, refined wood and embroidered interiors.

Evoque's beauty beyond skin deep

THE CHECKLIST | 2015 RANGE ROVER EVOQUE

THE BASICS

Type. Five-door, AWD, compact, luxury crossover
Engine (hp). 2.0-litre, inline, turbocharged four-cylinder (240)
Transmissions. Nine-speed automatic
Price. $49,270/$75,525

POINTS

- Lots of Ford-based engineering, as this current-generation Evoque (debuting in 2012) was conceived during the period when Ford owned Land Rover.
- Major mid-cycle update coming for model-year 2016 edition, landing later this year.
- Available in both two-door and four-door body styles.

COOL FEATURES

- New nine-speed automatic transmission added for model-year 2015.
- Optional 360-degree camera and self-parking systems.
- InControl allows some apps to look the same on the touchscreen as they do on your smartphone.

MARKET POSITION

- Evoque's twin is the new Discovery Sport (previously known as Land Rover LR2).
- Lightest and most fuel-efficient Range Rover ever produced.
- As all Range Rovers, Evoque is very capable off-road, and not just a pretty thing.

THE COMPETITION

Porsche Macan S
Base price: $58,315

Mercedes-Benz GLK
Base price: $50,595

Infiniti QX50
Base price: $36,945

REVIEW

Range Rover has compact crossover covered

Mike Goetz
Metro | Canada

The world domination of SUVs and crossovers has progressed through their unstoppable combination of AWD powertrains for all-weather and off-road prowess, a commanding tall-in-the-saddle driving experience, and doors and liftgates that open up to big interiors and cargo areas.

Looks are secondary.

Which makes the Range Rover Evoque, first introduced in 2012, so bloody interesting: It's a crossover that trades on its looks.

And it's not just fantastic looking for a crossover. It looks great, period. Our tester was a Dynamic, the Evoque's highest trim level, so was further bolstered in the looks department with 20-inch wheels, and more aggressive bumpers, tailpipes, and grille. It was also rendered in an awesome metallic shade of Orkney Grey. When I drove the beast to Detroit, it actually got a thumbs-up from the U.S. border guard.

The price to be paid for the sloping roofline at the rear, and smallish rear side-glass, is poor rearward visibility, and a rear seating area that is a bit claustrophobic and short on headroom. Evoque is also a "compact" crossover. It's shorter than a Ford Escape. So the cargo area is predictably tight, too.

Up front in the driver's cockpit, however, you are oblivious to such trifling things.

Everything that touches your body is luxurious, and everything in sight is "high style." I particularly like the rotary gear selector that rises slowly up from the console after the vehicle starts — very James Bond-ish — and the way the big infotainment screen is smoothly integrated in the dash. It doesn't look like an add-on as it does in lesser vehicles. The touchscreen itself, however, is a bit slow to respond, which wouldn't be so irritating if you didn't need it for so many regular functions, like changing radio stations and adjusting seat-warmer settings.

Once under the power of its Ford-sourced 2.0-litre turbocharged "four," it's evident Evoque is designed for spirited driving.

Land Rover made sure Evoque was especially light for its size, and the new torque vectoring system, called ActiveDriveline 4WD, means you can attack corners more quickly than you would otherwise. The ride is also quite firm. It gets even firmer with the low-profile tires on this Dynamic model.

Small and agile, the Evoque is effortlessly propelled by its 240-hp engine. The only glitch is a tendency to give you too much power, when you first dip into the throttle.

SAFETY

Self-driving cars to save lives: Google exec

Self-driving vehicles hold the key to reducing traffic fatalities and will transform the automobile industry, a top Google executive predicted.

Ray Kurzweil, a leading expert in artificial intelligence who joined the Internet search giant in 2012, told the recent annual conference of the Society of Automotive Engineers that the rapidly declining cost of computing power and the advances in artificial intelligence will make autonomous driving a reality.

Kurzweil told the audience that autonomous driving, utilizing artificial intelligence, is definitely coming. "The technology works. It's not far away," said Kurzweil, though he was not prepared to say just when self-driving cars will become a common sight.

"Google advised me to share with you they don't know the answer ... The technology is not going to be introduced until it's ready."

The need and value of autonomous vehicles is clear, he told hundreds of the industry's top engineers. "Google cars have gone close to a million miles without incident," he said.

"Some day an autonomous car will cause an accident and it will be big news. But while we've been talking, several people have died from human drivers."

Autonomous cars "are ultimately going to save millions of lives," he said, noting that traffic accidents kill 1.2 million people worldwide a year now.

"They also provide more efficient use of roads and parking lots. There are a lot of benefits."

But he said Google was not going to let its self-drive cars into the market "until they're safe."

"They have to be much more reliable than the technology they replace."

The appearance of the original Google Car prototype touched off a race among the world's automakers. Ford, Mercedes-Benz, Volkswagen and Nissan have set up engineering centres near Google's headquarters in Silicon Valley, Calif., to focus on self-driving technologies.

"People will still buy cars," Kurzweil said. "But the Uber model with self-driving cars will become very popular.

"We should share our cars. I think that model will grow when we have autonomous cars. AFP

Google won't release its self-driving cars into the market "until they're safe." AFP PHOTO/GLENN CHAPMAN

AUTO NEWS STUDENTS DEVELOP SYSTEM TO PUT BRAKES ON DRUNK DRIVING

The team adjusts a concept model of AlcoStop. AFP

AlcoStop uses sensors in seats, steering wheel

If you've been drinking, you may not get far with AlcoStop, the automotive safety system designed by a group of students at the Institute of Technology of Cintalapa in Mexico. Unlike other devices of its kind, it doesn't require puffing into a breathalyzer device. Instead, sensors inlaid in the seat, shift lever and steering wheel — all capable of detecting the blood alcohol level of the person holding it — will disable the car if required. The system includes a GPS tracking unit that allows for real-time monitoring of the car's location should the would-be driver be too confused to explain where he or she is. In case the car is disabled, an accompanying application alerts family or friends to go and pick up the driver. AFP

The new Lincoln Continental seats. JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

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*$2,000/$1,750/$1,000 discount on MSRP available on cash purchase, finance or lease of new and unregistered 2015 Tiguan 2.0T Highline / Tiguan 2.0T Trendline / Jetta 2.0L Trendline models. Discount varies by model. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer not shown in this ad. †**Lease payments of $215/$150 on the Tiguan/Jetta must be made on a monthly basis and cannot be made bi-weekly. Bi-weekly payment amounts shown include $1,750/$1,000 discount and are shown for information only.** Limited time lease offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit, based on a new and unregistered 2015 Tiguan 2.0T Trendline / Jetta 2.0L Trendline base model with 6/5-speed manual transmission. $1,760/$1,605 freight and PDI included in monthly payment. 48-month term at 1.9% APR. $3,922/$1,298 down payment, $260/$200 security deposit, $29 EHF (tires), $100 air-conditioning levy (if applicable), $5 OMVIC fee, $58 PPSA fee and up to $499 dealer administrative fee due at lease inception. Total lease obligation: $14,909/$9,065. 64,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.15/km for excess kilometres. PPSA fee, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. ††2015 Volkswagen Tiguan 2.0T 4MOTION® received a 5-star side-crash rating while the Jetta 4 DR FWD received a 5-star overall rating. Government star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) New Car Assessment Program (safercar.gov). Crash performance was based on a U.S.-equipped vehicle. Some features on that model may be optional or not available in Canada. ‡"Top Safety Pick" based on good ratings in the moderate overlap front, side, roof strength, head restraint tests; no less than an acceptable rating in the small overlap front tests. For details, visit www.iihs.org. ‡‡$1,000 gas card (while quantities last) or equivalent discount on MSRP available on cash purchase, finance or lease of select new and unregistered 2015 Jetta (GLI excluded) and Tiguan models. Vehicle must be purchased and delivered to customer between April 23 to 30, 2015. At participating Ottawa and Cornwall dealerships only. Conditions may apply to gas card. See participating dealers for details. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers end April 30, 2015 and are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Models shown: 2015 Tiguan 2.0T Highline R-Line, $43,483 / 2015 Jetta 1.8T Highline, $28,018. Vehicles shown for illustration purposes only and may include optional equipment. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Das Auto & Design", "Highline", "Trendline", "Tiguan" and "Jetta" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2015 Volkswagen Canada.

Lincoln crafts new ways to sit

DESIGN

Seats in new sedan to be adjustable 30 ways

Jil McIntosh
For Metro

Is it possible to have too many choices? Lincoln doesn't think so, at least when it comes to seats: Those in its upcoming new Continental luxury sedan will be adjustable 30 different ways.

"We didn't set out to make 30 ways and say that's what it needed," says Scott Tobin, director of Lincoln product development. "But we started with an anthropometric study, and saw what support is needed to reduce fatigue while driving, and encourage circulation and comfort."

A lot goes into developing any new seat, primarily because so much is required of it. It has to fit a wide variety of body shapes and heights; it has to be comfortable, but not so squishy that it isn't supportive; it may have to accommodate electric adjustment motors and heating elements, if the car is so equipped; and it has to meet federally mandated standards for occupant safety in a crash. And on top of all of that, automakers have to try to make it as light as possible, because extra weight will affect fuel economy.

The Continental will be Lincoln's most luxurious model, and while the company has only shown a concept version so far, the seats are expected to stay virtually the same in the production model. The designers started with a metal frame and foam as with most seats, but the foam in this one is supported by a layer of polymer plastic.

"These have a different, more revolutionary support system that can flex with your body," Tobin says. "They're almost like a leaf spring, and they support the foam that supports the body. It's about keeping the lower back stable and solid, and then you can adjust for the upper back."

Bolsters on the sides of the seat help to keep the occupants in place, but unlike the solid foam bolsters that other manufacturers use, this Lincoln uses air-filled ones. They deflate when the door is opened, making it easier to slide in and out of the seat, but then pump back up again to provide support.

Perhaps the seat's most important innovation is its thigh support. Many vehicles have these, which slide forward or lift up from the seat to support the back of the knee, but Lincoln's are unique in that the support is split in half, and each side can be individually adjusted. The driver's legs are always at different positions, since one leg must work the throttle and brake, and these individual supports can handle any angle.

"We all naturally splay (our legs) when we sit, and the knee falls out," Tobin says. "You have to think about that. We're all different heights, and these cushion lengths need to be different because (otherwise) you can tweak your back after all day in the car."

metro SPORTS

Peyton Manning says he feels good and doesn't see 2015 as a farewell tour

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Riots spawn closed-doors game at Camden Yards

BALTIMORE

Weekend series between Orioles, Rays shifts to Tampa

After two postponements caused by rioting in Baltimore, the Orioles and Chicago White Sox will play Wednesday at Camden Yards in what is believed to be the first game in major-league baseball's 145-season history without fans in the seats.

Because of the unsettled environment in Baltimore, where rioters burned a drug store and set police cars ablaze on Monday night, officials moved the game up five hours from its original 7:05 p.m. starting time and closed it to the public.

In addition, Baltimore's Friday-to-Sunday series against Tampa Bay was shifted from Camden Yards to Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, Fla., with Baltimore remaining the home team and batting last.

"It's all about what's best for the city and the safety of our people," Orioles manager Buck Showalter said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "The last thing you want to do is put the fans in harm's way. You have to err on the side of safety."

Looting and rock- and bottle-throwing by rioters broke out Monday just hours after the funeral of Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old man who suffered a fatal spinal cord injury while in police custody.

Schools were closed Tuesday and the mayor imposed a 10 p.m.-to-5 a.m. curfew. The announcement of the unique closed-doors game came late Tuesday afternoon, after the Orioles postponed games against Chicago on Monday and Tuesday.

"We were just trying to respond to the wishes of the public officials and protect the integrity of the schedule," Dan Duquette, the Orioles executive vice-president of baseball operations, said in a phone interview.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police stand guard outside Oriole Park at Camden Yards on Monday in Baltimore.

GREG FIUME/GETTY IMAGES

746

Since 1987, the lowest attendance for a game has been 746 when the White Sox hosted the Blue Jays at Comiskey Park on April 9, 1997, according to STATS.

PERSPECTIVE

Orioles COO John Angleos unleashed a series of Tweets Saturday night in defence of those protesting in Baltimore. Here is an excerpt of those Tweets condensed for clarity:

"The innocent working families of all backgrounds whose lives and dreams have been cut short by excessive violence, surveillance, and other abuses of the bill of rights by government pay the true price, an ultimate price, and one that far exceeds the importance of any kids' game played tonight, or ever, at Camden Yards. We need to keep in mind people are suffering and dying around the US and while we are thankful no one was injured at Camden Yards, there is a far bigger picture for poor Americans in Baltimore and everywhere who don't have jobs and are losing economic civil and legal rights and this makes inconvenience at a ball game irrelevant in light of the needless suffering government is inflicting upon ordinary Americans."

MLB

Edwin looks to another May run

The Blue Jays are in a bad place right now. Heading into Tuesday night's game they had lost four straight. Their bullpen is in disarray. Their starting rotation has allowed the most home runs in the majors.

Jose Reyes is on the disabled list and Jose Bautista is playing through a bum shoulder.

Adding to the team's concerns is Edwin Encarnacion, who since hitting a pair of homers on April 21 — including a mammoth blast that travelled 463 feet into the upper deck at the Rogers Centre, the third-longest home run in the majors this year — has been in a deep funk, managing just a single over his last 24 plate appearances before Tuesday. But there is hope on the horizon.

Edwin Encarnacion

GETTY IMAGES

"It's turning into his month here soon," manager John Gibbons said recently with a smile. "Release the beast!"

> **"I hope I have a great May this year, too, so I'm excited.**
>
> Edwin Encarnacion

Last year, Encarnacion had a May for the ages. He hit 16 homers — tying Mickey Mantle for the most ever by an American League hitter in May — and drove in 33 runs. He became just the third player in Major League Baseball history to have five multi-homer games in a month.

"Yeah, it was something crazy," Encarnacion said. "I'd never seen something like that in my career, the way I was last May."

Encarnacion is traditionally a slow starter. His career on-base-plus-slugging percentage in April is .770, nearly 80 points lower than his average OPS for the season's other five months.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

UFC

Jones faces hit-and-run felony charge

UFC light heavyweight champion Jon (Bones) Jones has made his first court appearance in connection with a hit-and-run that police say left a pregnant woman with a broken arm.

Jones appeared in an Albuquerque, N.M., court with his lawyer Tuesday and left without speaking to reporters. He is facing a felony charge of leaving the scene of an accident involving death or personal injuries.

Jones was released Monday on a $2,500 bond.

A judge did not impose travel restrictions on Jones.

According to police, witnesses said that Jones ran from a crash Sunday that hospitalized a pregnant woman but quickly came back to grab "a large handful of cash" from the car.

Authorities say the accident occurred in southeastern Albuquerque when the driver of a rented SUV ran a red light.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Cavs' Love likely out for remainder of playoffs

Kevin Love spent all those long, losing seasons in Minnesota aching for a chance to be part of the NBA playoffs. His first foray into them lasted less than four games.

Love sustained "extensive" damage in his left shoulder and will likely miss the remainder of Cleveland's playoff run.

Cleveland is waiting to see if it will play Chicago or Milwaukee in the next round. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOXING

A-list crowd to take in superfight

Tickets are at such a premium to see Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Manny Pacquiao's long-awaited matchup that all of those seated at ringside will be the recognizable, the rich — and the very lucky.

There should be no lack of celebrities — including Jay Z and Justin Bieber — among the 16,800 ticket holders.

Only 500 of the tickets, however, were offered to the public, and they sold in seconds.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Floyd Mayweather Jr., left, and Manny Pacquiao

STEPHEN DUNN/GETTY IMAGES

Matheson key either way

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Herdman feels veteran will benefit Canada on or off pitch

Diana Matheson. GETTY IMAGES

First an injured anterior cruciate ligament last October and then a broken fifth metatarsal in the foot in March during her comeback. The breaks have all been bad for veteran Canadian midfielder Diana Matheson recently.

"I was far enough in my ACL training that I was able to break my foot, unfortunately," Matheson said wryly after being named to the Canadian women's World Cup team.

The 31-year-old from Oakville, Ont., had the same injury in her left foot in 2010. Now she has matching screws in each foot.

With 166 caps, Matheson is a leader for the Canadian team on and off the field. So coach John Herdman included her in his 23-woman roster for the 24-team tournament that kicks off June 6. Herdman will give her every chance to get back to action.

If she is not ready, he can bring in an alternate up to 24 hours before the tournament. Matheson says if she can't make it in time, she will step aside.

"It's a no-brainer," she said in an interview Monday. "There's other people who are killing themselves and working hard to make this team and they would deserve the shirt, for sure."

But her teammates believe anything is possible with Matheson. And Herdman says either way, she will play a key leadership role for the team.

Because of the foot injury, Matheson was using crutches last week. But she put them aside Monday, walking gingerly down the stairs as the midfielder known simply as D joined her teammates at an outdoor pep rally-style event to announce the squad.

> **"I was far enough in my ACL training that I was able to break my foot, unfortunately."**
> Diana Matheson

When the five-foot Matheson went down during the October friendly against Japan, she knew right away she had injured her anterior cruciate ligament.

She had seen enough people suffer the injury. An "off-balance plant and twist."

Goalie Erin McLeod has endured two ACL injuries. Lauren Sesselmann, Melissa Tancredi and Jonelle Filigno have also come back from the same injury. "It took me a lot longer than it's taking Diana. She's like another breed," Filigno said with a laugh. "I don't know what it is but her body heals quick."

Matheson believes she would have been able to get some games in ahead of the World Cup had she not had to rehab her knee. "The reality is I won't have that time so it's going to be more jumping straight into the World Cup. Hopefully it's the same outcome — that I'm able to have a positive impact on the team."

While her teammates return home for a 10-day break after the roster announcement, Matheson will be staying in Vancouver to continue her rehab. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EURO SOCCER

In England
Michael Dawson's first-half header gave Hull a 1-0 victory over Liverpool that pushed the northeast England club closer to Premier League survival. Hull is now four points clear of the relegation zone. Liverpool is seven points behind Manchester United, which is fourth and in the final Champions League spot.

In Germany
Bayern Munich's bid for a trophy treble ended on Tuesday when the holders lost 2-0 on penalties to 10-man Borussia Dortmund in the German Cup semifinals after missing four spot-kicks in the shootout.

In Italy
Antonio Di Natale matched Roberto Baggio with his 205th Serie A goal on Tuesday, as his nine-man Udinese side lost 2-1 to Inter.

In France
PSG beat relegation-threatened Metz 3-1 on Tuesday to move three points clear of Lyon at the top of Ligue 1. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOCCER SUAREZ ON THE DOUBLE AS BARCELONA EXTENDS LEAD AT TOP Xavi (left) and Adriano (centre) celebrate with their teammate Luis Suarez (right) after the Uruguayan striker scored his team's fifth goal and his second during Barcelona's 6-0 rout over Getafe at Camp Nou. The Catalan club now hold a five-point lead over rivals Real Madrid at the top of La Liga. GETTY IMAGES

Carey Price. GETTY IMAGES

NHL

Habs hail Price's impact

After the Montreal Canadiens held on to eliminate Ottawa in the sixth game of their first-round playoff series, coach Michel Therrien said more than once that "it's a good thing we had Carey Price on our side."

Therrien said the same often this season as the Canadiens, a low-scoring squad that leans heavily on its goaltender, saw Price produce a career campaign that will probably earn him the Vezina Trophy as the league's top goalie but may also bring him the Hart Trophy as most valuable player.

Price saved his best for last against Ottawa, posting a 43-save shutout in a 2-0 victory on Sunday night. He rebounded from allowing five goals in Game 5, which had given the Senators momentum that was crushed by Brendan Gallagher's first-period goal and Price's dominance in the net. "I had no doubt about Carey Price," added Therrien. "I knew he was going to be the best player."

The win put Montreal into the second round against either Detroit or Tampa Bay. Either way, the series is to start Friday night at the Bell Centre.

The 27-year-old Price has been doing it all season, going 44-16-8 in 66 starts and leading the NHL in goals-against average (1.96) and save percentage (.933). His NHL-best 44 wins in a season was a team record, two more than the mark set by legends Jacques Plante (1956 and 1962) and Ken Dryden (1976).

"He's the best player every night, he's the best player on our team," said Habs winger Max Pacioretty. "He's the best competitor I've ever seen." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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RECIPE Mushroom Barley Burgers

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 36 minutes
Serving size: 4

Ingredients

Burgers
- 2 cups vegetable stock (or water)
- 1/2 cup pearl barley
- 4 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup diced onion
- 1/2 cup diced carrots
- 2 cups diced mushrooms (any variety)
- 3/4 cup seasoned dry breadcrumbs
- 1 egg
- 1 1/2 tsp crushed garlic
- 1 tsp hot chili sauce or to taste
- 1/3 cup chopped cilantro
- 1 tsp low-sodium soy sauce
- pinch of salt and pepper

Tahini sauce
- 1 Tbsp tahini (sesame seed paste)
- 1 Tbsp light mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup low-fat plain yogurt
- 1/2 tsp crushed garlic
- 1 tsp low-sodium soy sauce
- 3 Tbsp chopped cilantro

Directions

1. Bring the stock and barley to a boil, cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Drain and set aside.

2. Meanwhile heat a large, nonstick skillet and add 2 tsp of the oil and the onion and sauté for 3 minutes. Add the carrots and sauté for 3 minutes. Add the mushrooms and sauté for 8 minutes or until the vegetables are tender and no liquid remains.

3. Add the barley and vegetable mixture to the bowl of a food processor. Add the breadcrumbs, egg, garlic, chili sauce, cilantro, soy sauce and salt and pepper. Process just until still slightly coarse. Form the mixture into 4 burgers.

4. Lightly coat a large, nonstick skillet with cooking spray and the remaining oil, then cook burgers for 3 minutes per side.

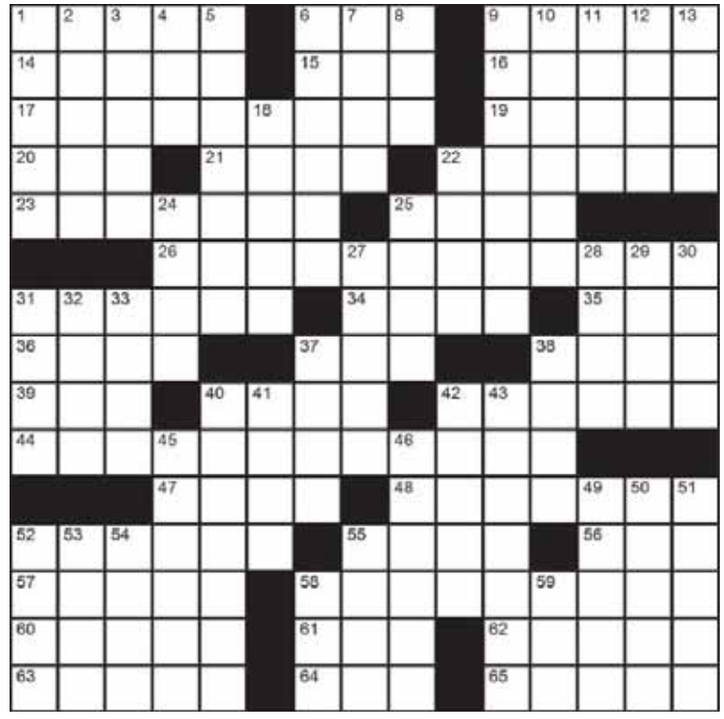
5. To make the sauce, whisk the tahini, mayonnaise, yogurt, garlic, soy sauce and cilantro together in a small bowl and serve with the burgers.

Nutrition information per serving
- Calories 322
- Protein 10 g
- Carbohydrates 46 g
- Fibre 6.5 g
- Total fat 11 g
- Saturated fat 1.8 g
- Cholesterol 55 mg
- Sodium 490 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. "Who made this mess?" response: 2 wds.
6. Jimmy
9. Sandwich sorts
14. Pungent
15. Ms. Michele
16. Spooky
17. Cape Breton community famed for its hooked rug artistry
19. Heroic poems
20. Charlemagne's domain [acronym]
21. Not that
22. Lauds
23. __ headache
25. Foe of the Allies in WWII
26. 'The __ __ Province' (Nickname for Manitoba because of its early shape and small size)
31. Bring into harmony
34. Light fog
35. Toronto Maple Leafs centre Mr. Komarov
36. Mr. Penn
37. German article
38. Scottish family
39. Apiece
40. Big bits
42. Keenness
44. Smouldering stretch seen from Franklin Bay in the Northwest Territories: 2 wds.
47. Mr. Andreoff, LA Kings player born in Pickering, ON
48. Cinderella's is glass
52. Non-printed fabrics
55. Blackthorn fruit
56. Leandro's beloved
57. Awry
58. Canadian singer of current tune "Sound of Your Heart": 2 wds.
60. Brief movie role
61. Particle
62. Uptight
63. Bouillon/soup mix brand
64. Curtains holder
65. British singer Leo

DOWN
1. Night: German
2. Earthy pigment
3. Wooden
4. "Good Will Hunting" (1997) univ.
5. Version
6. Grievance
7. Sleep stages, commonly
8. Sharp bark
9. Arcade Fire song that goes "They walk in the room / And stare right through you...": 2 wds.
10. Meal
11. Seed covering
12. Ancient Scot
13. Meeting [abbr.]
18. Selected
22. Married-no-mores
24. Twirled
25. Opposin'
27. "Witness" (1985) folk
28. Josh Groban/Kelly Clarkson duet: "__ _ Ask of You"
29. Vegan's no-no
30. Baby horse
31. Some snakes
32. Abound
33. Tropical tuber
37. Irritable
38. Crescent moon point
40. 'City of Roses' in Ontario
41. Conjunctions
42. Permit
43. Entrepreneur's customers
45. Sandwich roll
46. Cape Breton __
49. Spring flower
50. Jagged
51. "Today" weatherman Al
52. Large bag
53. Sultanate of the Arabian Peninsula
54. Celeb's ride
55. "Begone!"
58. Aristocratic title
59. "Isn't __ _ bit like..." - Beatles, "Nowhere Man"

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Opportunities to better yourself won't be hard to find over the next few days, so stay alert and be ready to act when you get the chance. Nothing is impossible if you want it enough.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Let your mind roam where it will over the next 24 hours. Give yourself permission to dream. The dreams you have may seem far-fetched to some but chances are it won't be long before they are no longer dreams but realities.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You may not be happy with some of the changes taking place at the moment but your instincts tell you that you will benefit from them in some way, so keep your doubts to yourself and don't make waves.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You don't lack for ideas or the confidence to use them but you should nevertheless keep them to yourself for a bit. The planets warn this is not a good time to share what you know.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
If your everyday routine has become a bit too predictable now is the time to do something about it. There will be some serious upheavals in the working pattern of your life over the next few days. Take full advantage of them.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Is it really possible that so many good things are happening and that so much is going your way at the moment? Yes, of course it is, and they will continue to go your way so long as you believe that you deserve it.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Relationships of all kinds are under favourable stars right now, so even if there have been a few harsh words of late you can, if you wish, patch things up and be friends again.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Do something special over the next 24 hours, something that those who see it never forget. That might not be as easy as it sounds, seeing as you have done so many special things in the past, but you'll think of something!

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will work extremely hard today and for the rest of the week, not for cash or fame but because you want to prove that a goal you set yourself a while back is possible to reach. If you gain in other ways too – that's a bonus.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The cosmic powers that be are very much on your side at the moment. What does that mean in practical terms? It means you can and you should do something memorable.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your thoughts may be mainly on your work at the moment but you must not neglect matters closer to home. Cosmic activity in the domestic area of your chart means you must make time for those you love.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Travel and social activities are under excellent stars right now, so don't sit at home thinking about what amazing things might be going on some place else – find out for yourself.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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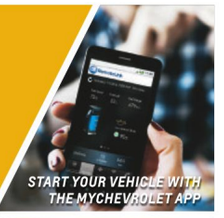
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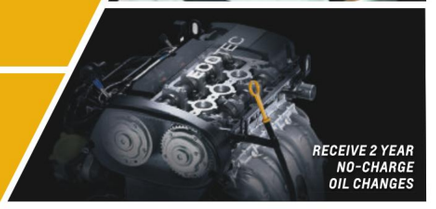
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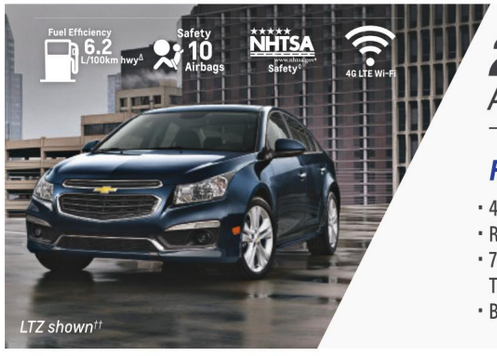

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For the latest information, visit us at chevrolet.ca, drop by your local Chevrolet Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. ▼Based on a 48 month lease for 2015 Chevrolet Cruze LT 1SA+MH8. Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km. $0.16 per excess kilometre. OAC by GM Financial. Monthly/bi-weekly payments may vary depending on down payment/trade. A down payment or trade of $995 and/or $0 security deposit is required. Total obligation is $11,237. Option to purchase at lease end is $9,878. Excess wear and tear and km charges not included. Other lease options available. *Offer applies to the purchase of 2015 Chevrolet Equinox LS FWD 1LS. ◆◆$4,200 is a manufacturer to dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive) for 2015 Chevrolet Equinox LS FWD and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. Such credit is available only for cash purchase and by selecting lease or finance offers, consumers are foregoing such credit which will result in higher effective interest rates. Other cash credits available on most models. See dealer for details. ▼/*/◆◆/***Freight & PDI ($1,600/$1,650), registration, air and tire levies and OMVIC fees included. Insurance, licence, PPSA, dealer fees and applicable taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2015 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Quantities limited; dealer order or trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers, in whole or in part, at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ††2015 Cruze LTZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies: $28,639. 2015 Equinox 1LZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies: $39,164. Dealers are free to set individual prices. **The 2-Year Scheduled Lube-Oil-Filter Maintenance Program provides eligible customers in Canada, who have purchased, leased or financed a new eligible 2014 MY Chevrolet, Buick or GMC vehicle (excluding Spark EV), with an ACDelco oil and filter change, in accordance with the oil life monitoring system and the Owner's Manual, for 2 years or 40,000 km, whichever occurs first, with a limit of four (4) Lube-Oil-Filter services in total, performed at participating GM Dealers. Fluid top-offs, inspections, tire rotations, wheel alignments and balancing, etc. are not covered. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. General Motors of Canada Limited reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ▲Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details. **1** Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any model year 1999 or newer car that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2015 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac car, SUV, crossover and pickup models delivered in Canada from April 1, 2015 – April 30, 2015. Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive) and credit value depends on model purchased: $500 credit available on Chevrolet: Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Volt, Trax, Malibu (except LS), Buick Encore and Verano; $750 credit available on other Chevrolet, Buick and GMC vehicles (except Chevrolet: Colorado 2SA, Camaro Z28, Malibu LS, Silverado Light Duty and Heavy Duty, GMC: Canyon 2SA, Sierra Light Duty and Heavy Duty); $1,000 credit available on Cadillac vehicles (except 2015 Cadillac Escalade) and $1,000 on all Chevrolet Silverados and GMC Sierras. Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. **2** Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any Pontiac/Saturn/SAAB/Hummer/Oldsmobile model year 1999 or newer car or Chevrolet Cobalt or HHR that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2015 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac car, SUV, crossover and pickup models delivered in Canada from April 1, 2015 – April 30, 2015. Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive): $1,000 credit available on Chevrolet: Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Volt, Trax, Malibu (except LS), Buick Encore and Verano; $1,500 credit available on other eligible Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac vehicles (except Chevrolet: Colorado 2SA, Camaro Z28, Malibu LS, GMC Canyon 2SA and 2015 Cadillac Escalade). Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. **3** 0% purchase financing offered by GMCL for 72 months on 2015 Chevrolet (Sonic/Cruze LS, LT, LTZ, ECO/Malibu LT, LTZ/Equinox). O.A.C by RBC Royal Bank/TD Auto Finance Services/Scotiabank. Rates from other lenders will vary. Example: $10,000 at 0% APR, monthly payment is $119.05 for 84 months. Cost of borrowing is $0, total obligation is $10,000. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly/bi-weekly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. **4** 0% leasing for 24/36 months available on 2015 Chevrolet Malibu, Impala, Trax & Silverado 1500; for 24/36/48 months available on 2015 Chevrolet Sonic & Cruze; on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Example: Based on a purchase price of $17,450 (including $1,000 lease credit, and $442 owner cash) for a 2015 Chevrolet Cruze LS 1SA. Bi-weekly payment is $90 for 24 months at 0.0% APR, on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km, $0.16 per excess kilometre. OAC by GM Financial. Monthly/bi-weekly payments may vary depending on down payment/trade. A down payment or trade of $0 and/or $0 security deposit is required. Total obligation is $4,696. Option to purchase at lease end is $11,312. Price and total obligation exclude license, insurance, registration, taxes, dealer fees and optional equipment. Other lease options are available. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time offer which may not be combined with other offers. See your dealer for conditions and details. General Motors of Canada Limited reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. **5** 2-years no-charge OnStar Guidance Plan valid from April 1, 2015 – April 30, 2015. Offer valid on a 24 months lease for a Chevrolet Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Malibu, Impala, Camaro, Corvette, Trax, Equinox & Traverse. Visit onstar.ca for coverage map, details and system limitations. Services vary by model and conditions. OnStar acts as a link to existing emergency service providers. Not all vehicles may transmit all crash data. Mobile app available on select iOS, Android,™ BlackBerry® and Windows® devices. Services vary by device, vehicle and conditions. Requires active OnStar subscription. OnStar Hands- Free Calling requires an existing OnStar service contract and available minutes. Not available in certain markets. Visit onstar.ca for coverage map, details and system limitations. Available 4G LTE Wi-Fi requires compatible mobile device, active OnStar subscription and data plan. 2-years no-charge XM Select package valid from April 1, 2015 – April 30, 2015. Offer valid on a 24 months lease for a Chevrolet Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Malibu, Impala, Camaro, Corvette, Trax, Equinox & Traverse. Required a factory-installed SiriusXM system. Programming subject to change. See details at siriusxm.ca. **6** Offer valid to eligible retail lessees in Canada who have obtained credit approval by and entered into a lease agreement with GM Financial, and who accept delivery from April 22, 2015 – June 1, 2015 of any new or demonstrator 2015 model year Chevrolet Cruze. General Motors of Canada will pay one month's lease payment or two bi-weekly lease payments as defined on the lease agreement (inclusive of taxes). After the first month, lessee will be required to make all remaining scheduled payments over the remaining term of the lease agreement. PPSA/RDPRM is not due. Consumer may be required to pay Dealer Fees. Insurance, licence and applicable taxes not included. Additional conditions and limitations apply. GM reserves the right to modify or terminate this offer at any time without prior notice. See dealer for details.